Country Contentments

OR, THE

HUSBANDMANS RECREATIONS

CONTAINING THE WHOLSOME Experience, in which any ought to Recreate himſelfe, after the toyle of more ſerious buſineſſe.

As namely, Hunting, Hawking, Courſing with Gray-Hounds, and the Laws of Leaſe, Shooting in the Long-bow or Croſs-bow, Bouling, Tennis, Baloon: The whole Art of Angling, and the uſe of the fighting Cock.

By *G. M.*

The Ninth Edition.

Newly Corrected, Enlarged, and adorned with many Excellent Additions, as may appear by this Mark ☞

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To the thrice Noble and vertuous maintainer

and furtherer of all lawfull and worthy pleasures,

Sir THEODORE NEWTON,

Knight.

SIR, Howsoever banished by the necessity of mine affairs from your presence, (in which I once built the best and happiest estate of my Life, beginning to love it, because I found you did imploy it,) yet can I never be separated from your remembrance, because it is all the joy which is likely to live and dye with me; witnesse my soul, that shews me no worldly lesson so much, as the beneficiall favours I have reapt from your vertue; which to acknowledge with a more earnest and serious fervency, I have sent this poor Book to kisse your hand, and speak to you in plain and short Rules those speeches which you have been willing to hear from my mouth; not doubting but they will give you satisfaction, and make me live both with you, and the inheritours of your vertues, to the last age. They are true and easie, drawn from these last times, not borrowed to bestow with a flattering insinuation, but faithfully drawn from Art, and from those experiments which I once thought should have stept in the grave with me: but having lived so long from your eyes (which I protest my soul truly loves) I studyed to think what gratefull Embassadour I might send to speak I love you: I love you and finding none which I thought you would better hear than this, I furnisht him with the best instructions I could, and sent him only attired in his own vertue, to tell you, what I do, and what I will do, is ever to live and dye at your service

Gervase Markham.

To the best disposed Readers.

MAny and sundry may be the constructions and censures of this Book (Courteous and well disposed Reader) because I have in former time written so largely of some part of the subject contained herein; but I would have no man mistaken in his own prejudicate opinion, but truly understand, that this is neither Epitomy, relation extraction, nor repitition either of mine own, or any other Author whatsoever: but a plain form of doing things by a neerer and more easie and safer way then ever hath hitherto been discovered, drawn from the latest experiments in true art, and finding a neerer way to our ends by many degrees: for what before could not be done in divers years, here you shall see how to effect in few months; and what we bestowed months upon to seek, now we may find in few weeks. The reasons which induc'd me to this labour were these, first to give satisfaction to the friends and favourers of my former works, that when they hear men discourse of these passages to our delights, they may yet know, that the first was neither ill nor vain, but what now is derived from it; and that albeit we may be less curious, yet the curiosity is not altogether unprofitable, but both joyned together may make an absolute understanding. Then to give ease and a light burthen to the heavy and duller memory, whom the tediousnesse of a great work may discourage; and lastly, because my former labour is utterly out of Print, whereby the Kingdome is deprived of the benefit I intended, I thought good to have something living of lesse price, and as great (perhaps greater) profit, which should satisfie all vertuous minds in any thing required, within the compass of those former shewed Recreations: not doubting but howsoever men may first give a light survey to these papers, yet if they once take pains to read them, they will after affirm them worthy of choice bosomes. And with this setled resolution I leave them to thy view, and thee to thine own rest.

Ever one, Gervase Markham.

Country

COUNTRY CONTENTMENTS: OR, The Husbandmans, Recreation containing the wholesome Exercises, in which any man ought to Recreate himself, after the toyle of more serious Business.

The first Book.

CHAP. I.

Of Hunting, and of all the particular Knowledges belonging thereunto.

HAving already in my former work of the *English Husbandman*, set forth in sufficient largeness, the toyl, and indefatigable labours of the carefull *Husbandman*, and how both his mind and body ought in every season to be imployd for the effecting and bringing forth of those wholsome profits, which God hath appointed for the maintenance of him and his Family: And in the

the Book laſt going before called *Cheap and Good*, ſhew'd the cure and maintenance of his Cattle and creatures bred by him, & his labours, through Gods great Bleſſings; I think it not amiſs here to ſpeak of thoſe lawfull and praiſe-worthy exerciſes or recreations, in which (with Gods fear, & care of not offending his neighbour) he may ſoberly ſpend thoſe hours which he ſhall beſtow in the cheerfull reviving and ſtirring up of his ſpirits, being formerly wearied or fore-done with the heavy toyl of more unpleaſant (though more profitable) ſtudyes: both becauſe it is intended that a man ſo good and vertuous as the true *Huſbandman* is, ſhould not be deprived of any comfort or felicity, which the earth, or the creatures of the earth can afford to him, being indeed the Right Lord and Maſter (next under God) of them both; as alſo for the neceſſity thereof, being the ſtrengthner and inabler of the mind, to undergo the weightieſt affairs that can any way poiſe, or bear down imagination.

The neceſſity and uſe of Recreation.

Hence it comes that the heathen Sages, or wiſe men of the firſt world, founded, with their Laws, their feaſts; with their *Labours*, their *Olympicks*, with their warfare, their *Triumphs* nay at this day we ſee the ſevereſt pedants will give their Schollers their play day, and the moſt covetous maſters will bind their hirelings but to certain hours; every toyl exacting (as out of duty) ſometime for recreation: neither was there any *Stoick* found ſo cruel, either to himſelf or nature, but at ſometime or other he would unbend his mind, and give it liberty to ſtray into ſome more pleaſant walks, then the myry wayes of his own wilfull reſolutions. As I have obſerved in the courſe of many men of exceeding ſtrict lives, to whom albeit ſeverity of profeſſion, infirmity of body, and age, or ſuch like, have taken away all actuall recreation, yet have their minds begot unto themſelves ſome habits or cuſtomes of delight, which have in as large meaſure given them contentment, whether they were their own, or borrowed, as if they had been the ſole Actors of the ſame.

But why wade I thus far in this untroubled ſtream? Let it ſuffice then that as Recreation is moſt neceſſary, ſo to noon it is more due then to the *Husbandman*, and herein you may not expect, that I will go about to elect and preſcribe what recreation he ſhall uſe, binding all men to one pleaſure; God forbid: my purpoſe

purpoſe is meerly contrary; for I know in mens recreations, that nature taketh to her ſelf an eſpecial prerogative, and what to one is moſt pleaſant, to another is moſt offenſive; ſome ſeeking to ſatisfie the mind, ſome the body, and ſome both, in a joynt motion.

I will therefore, as far as my skill and knowledge will extend, figure forth to the life every ſeverall recreation, leaving no limb or member imperfect, and then leave unto the choice of the *Huſbandman*, that which ſhall beſt agree with his ſpirit: not doubting but as they are in themſelves lawfull and modeſt; ſo he will uſe them according to the worthineſſe of his own, and their vertues. Now for as much as theſe ſports are many and divers, I think it not amiſs to begin and give that recreation precedency of place, which in mine opinion (how ever it may be eſteemed partial) doth many degrees go before, and precede all other, as being moſt royal for the ſtatelineſſe thereof, moſt artificial for the wiſdome and cunning thereof, and moſt manly and Warlike for the uſe and indurance thereof. And this I hold to be the Hunting of wild Beaſts in generall: of which as Chaſes are many, and ſo I will ſpeak of them particularly in their proper places. The praiſe of Hunting.

But before I proceed any further, I will tell you what *Hunting* is, and from the true definition thereof, make your way more eaſie and plain into the hidden Art of the ſame. Hunting is then a curious ſearch or conqueſt of one Beaſt over another, purſued by a natural inſtinct of enmity, and accompliſhed by the diverſities and diſtinction or ſmells onely, wherein *Nature* equally dividing her cuuning, giveth both to the offender, and offended, ſtrange knowledge both of offence and ſafety. In this recreation is to be ſeen the wonderfull power of God in his creatures, and how far rage and policy can prevail againſt innocency and wiſdome: But, to proceed to my main purpoſe you ſhall underſtand that as the Chaſes are many which we dayly hunt as that of the *Stagges* the *Buck* the *Roe*, the *Hare*, the *Fox*, the *Badger*, the *Otter*, the *Boar*, the *Goat*, and ſuch like; ſo the purſuers or conquerers of theſe chaſes (ſpeaking of *Hunting* only) are but one kind of creatures; namely, *Hounds*. Now of theſe hounds there are divers kinds, as the ſlow hound, which is a large What Hunting is. The diverſity of Chaſes. The diverſity of Hounds.

large great dog, tall, and heavy, and are bred for the most part in the West Countries of this Land, as also in *Cheshire* and *Lancashire* and most wood land and mountainous Countryes; then the middle sized dog, which is more fit for the Chase, being of a more nimble composure, and are bred in *Worcestershire*, *Bedfordshire*, and many other well mixt soyls, where the Champain and covert are of equal largeness; then the light, nimble, swift, slender Dog, which is bred in the North parts of this Land, as *Yorkshire*, *Cumberland*, *Northumberland*, and many other plain Champain Countryes: and lastly, the little *Beagle*, which may be carried in a mans glove. and are bred in many Countryes for delight onely, being of curious sents and passing cunning in their hunting; for the most part tyring, (but seldome killing) the prey, except at some strange advantage.

These hounds are of divers colours, and according to their colours, so we elect them for the chase: as thus for example. The white hound, or the white with black spots, or the white with some few liver spots, are the most principall, both to compose your Kennel of, and will indeed haunt any chase exceeding well, especially the Hare, Stag, Buck, Roe, or Otter, for they will well endure both woods, and waters: yet if you demand which is the best, and most beautifull of all colours, for the generall Kennel, then I answer the white with the black ears, and a black spot at the setting on of the tayl, and are ever found both of good sent, and good condition. The black hound, the black tann'd, or he that is all liver hewd, or the milk white, which is the true Talbots, are best for the string, or line, for they do delight most in blood, and have a naturall inclination to hunt dry foot: and of these the largest is ever best, and most comely. The grissled, which are ever most commonly shag hair'd or any other colour, whether it be mixt, or unmixt, so it be shag-hair'd, are the best verminers, and therefore are chosen to hunt the Fox, Badger, or any other hot sents: they are exceeding good and cunning finders: and therefore have Huntsmen thought not amisse to have one, or a couple in every Kennel.

The shape and proportion of Hounds.

For the shape of your Hound, it must be according to the climate where he is bred, and according to the natural composition

poſition of his body, as thus: If you would chooſe a large, heavy, ſlow, true, Talbot like hound, you muſt chooſe him which hath a round, big, thick head, with a ſhort noſe upriſing, and large open noſtrils, which ſhews that he is of a good and quick ſcent, his ears exceeding large, thin, and down hanging much lower then his chaps, and the flews of his upper lips almoſt two inches lower than his neither chaps, which ſhewes a merry deep mouth, and a loud ringer, his back ſtrong and ſtreight, yet rather riſing, then inwardly yielding, which ſhewes much toughneſſe and indurance; his fillets would be thick and great, which approves a quick gathering up of his legs without pain, his huckle bones round, and hidden, which ſhewes he will not tyre, his thighs round, and his hams ſtreight, which ſhewes ſwiftneſſe; his tail long, and ruſh grown, that is big at the ſetting on, and ſmall downward, which ſhewes a perfect ſtrong chine, and a good wind; the hair under his belly hard, and ſtiffe, which ſhews willingneſſe and ability to endure labour in all weathers, and in all places; his legs large, and lean, which ſhews nimbleneſſe in leaping or climing, his foot round, high knuckled and well clawd, with a dry hard ſoal, which ſhewes he will never ſurbait; and the general compoſure of his body ſo juſt, and even, that no level may diſtinguiſh whether his hinder or fore part be the higher; all which ſhew him of much ability, and that in his labour he will ſeldome find any annoyance. But if you will chooſe a ſwift light hound, then muſt his head be more ſlender, and his noſe more long, his ears and flewes more ſhallow, his back broad, his belly gaunt, his tail ſmall, his joints long, his foot round, and his generall compoſure much more ſlender, and Gray-hound-like: and thus in the generality for the moſt part, are all your *Yorkſhire* hounds, whoſe vertues I can praiſe no further then for ſcent and ſwiftneſſe: for to ſpeak of their mouths they have only a little ſharp ſweetneſſe like Gig, but no depth or ground like more ſolemn muſick.

Now to ſpeak of the compoſition of Kennels, though there is a moſt certain known better hood, yet it is to men like beauty each allowing beſt of that which agrees with his own affection, therefore when you intend to ſet up a Kennel of hounds, examine your fancy what be the beſt pleaſures you take in The compoſition of kennels.

hounds, whether it be cunning in hunting, ſweetneſſe, loudneſſe or deepneſſe of cry; whether it be for the training of your horſe or elſe but meerly for the exerciſe of your own body, being otherwiſe ſubject to groſsneſſe and infirmity: If it be for cunning hunting, you ſhall breed your dogs from the ſloweſt and largeſt of the Northern hounds, and the ſwifteſt and ſtandreſt of the Weſt country hounds, being both male and female, approved to be ſtaunch, fair, and even-running, or perfect fine ſcent, and not given to lye off, or looks for advantages. These hounds will neither be ſo exceeding ſlow, that you will waſte many dayes without ſome fruit of your labour, or ſo unnimble, that you ſhall need men to help them over every hedge, as I have many times ſeen, to my much wonder; but having both ſtrength and nimbleneſſe, will hold you in continual delight and exerciſe; for theſe middle ſiz'd dogs are neither ſo ſwift that they will far out-run the ſcent, and ſo fetch many tedious rings to recover it; nor ſo ſlow, that for want of ſpeed they will loſe the ſcent, and let it grow cold by their own lazineſſe, but being ever and anon upon it, bring the Chaſe to ſuch a narrow exigent, that the poor beaſt ſhall be forc'd to try all the skill, nature or ſtrength hath lent it, to preſerve life: and the hounds on the other ſide, all their pains, and the huntſmans cunning, to undoe intricate doubles, skips, ſquats, and windings with which they ſhall be perplexed; and in this mediocrity of hunting, ſhall your eye (if the covert be not too extream thick) take a perfect view of all the art and cunning in every paſſage, ſo that I conclude the middle ſized hound, of good ſtrength, ſound mouth, and reaſonable ſpeed, which will make a horſe gallop faſt, and not run, is the beſt for the true Art and uſe of hunting.

The middle-siz'd dog for running.

If you would have your Kennel for ſweetneſſe of cry, then you muſt compound it of ſome large dogs, that have deep ſolemn mouthes, and are ſwift in ſpending, which muſt as it were bear the baſe in the conſort; then a double number of roaring, and loud ringing mouthes, which muſt bear the counter tenor; then ſome hollow plain ſweet mouthes, which muſt bear the mean or middle part: and ſo with theſe three parts of muſick you ſhall make your cry perfect: and herein you ſhall obſerve that theſe hounds thus mixt, doe run juſt and even together, and

For ſweetneſs of cry.

and not hang off looſe from one another, which is the vileſt ſight that may be; and you ſhall underſtand, that this compoſition is beſt to be made of the ſwifteſt and largeſt deep mouthed dog, the ſloweſt middle ſiz'd dog, and the ſhorteſt legg'd ſlender dog, amongſt theſe you may caſt in a couple or two ſmall ſingle beagles, which as ſmall trebles may warble amongſt them: the cry will be a great deal the more ſweet.

If you would have your kennel for loudneſſe of mouth, you ſhall not then chooſe the hollow deep mouth, but the loud clanging mouth, which ſpendeth freely, and ſharply, and as it were redoubleth in the utterance: and if you mix with them the mouth that roareth, and the mouth that whineth, the cry will be both the louder and the ſmarter; and theſe hounds are for the moſt part of the middle ſize, neither extream tall, nor extream deep flewed, ſuch as for the moſt part your *Shropſhire*, pure *Worceſterſhire* dogs are, and the more equally you compound theſe mouths, having as many Roarers as Spenders, and as many whiners, as of either of the other, the lowder and pleaſanter your cry will be, eſpecially if it be in ſounding tall woods, or under the eccho of Rocks. For loudneſs of cry.

If you would have your Kennel for depth of mouth, then you ſhall compound it of the largeſt dogs which have the greateſt mouths, and deepeſt flews, ſuch as your *Weſt Country*, *Cheſhire*, and *Lancaſhire* dogs are, and to five or ſix baſe couple of mouths, ſhall not adde above two couple of Counter tenors, as many Means, and not above one couple of Roarers, which being heard but now and then, as at the opening or hitting of a ſent, will give much ſweetneſſe to the ſolemneſſe, and graveneſſe of the cry, and the muſick thereof will be much more delightfull to the ears of every beholder. For deepneſs of cry.

If you would have your Kennell for the training of your horſe onely, labouring thereby to bring him to the full perfection of ſpeed, truth, and toughneſſe, then you ſhall compound your Kennell of the lighteſt, nimbleſt, and ſwifteſt dogs, ſuch as for the moſt part all your Northern hounds are, which running ſwiftly away with the chaſe, will draw your horſe up to that extraordinary ſpeed, that he will forget all eaſe or loitering, and acquaint himſelfe dayly with the violence of ſuch exerciſe, being ſo familiar For training horſes.

familiar therewith; that in the end it will be leſſe troubleſome to him then a ſlow gallop: and hence it was and is, that the North parts are ſo famous for the truth and ſwiftneſſe of their horſes, above all other Countries in this Kingdome: for it is moſt certain that their horſes are not better bred there, then in other places, but their exerciſe is much ſtronger, and violent through the naturall ſwiftneſſe of their hounds, inſomuch, that unleſſe a horſe either out of nature, or education, be brought to a more then ordinary ſpeed, it is impoſſible that his maſter ſhould either ſee ſport, or keep company with his companions.

A good caveat for Gentlemen.

Therefore I would have all young Gentlemen, which are addicted to the delight of hunting, or running horſes, by all meanes to train them up after the ſwifteſt hounds: for it is the greateſt deceit and couſenage a man can beſtow upon himſelfe, to do the contrary, as I have ſeen many times in mine own experience, when a Gentleman who hath ſuppoſed his hounds to be ſwift, which indeed were but of a middle ſpeed, and hath ſeen his Horſe follow them all day luſtily and ſtrongly, in every Chaſe able to command the formoſt hound at his pleaſure, he hath immediately in his own judgement concluded his horſe ſwift and matchable with the beſt, and from that opinion ingaged him againſt a known ſwift horſe, for great ſummes of money: then when the day of tryall, hath been come, the horſe which had been trained after ſlow dogs, comming to follow thoſe that were indeed ſwift, hath been drawn ſo far beyond the uſual manner of former exerciſe, that he hath given over the Chaſe before the day hath been half ſpent.

This caveat I give for all mens inſtructions, becauſe I have ſeen the loſſe which hath grown thereby. And now to return to my purpoſe; your Kennel thus compoſed of the ſwifteſt hounds, you ſhall as nigh as you can, ſort their mouths into three equall parts of muſick, that is to ſay, Baſe, Counter-tenor, and Mean; the Baſe are thoſe mouths which are moſt deep and ſolemn, and are ſpent out plain and freely, without redoubling: the Counter-tenour are thoſe which are moſt loud and ringing, whoſe ſharp ſounds paſſe ſo ſwift, that they ſeem to doole and make diviſion; and the Mean are thoſe which are ſoft ſweet mouthes, that though plain, and a little hollow, yet are ſpent ſmooth

ſmooth and freely; yet ſo diſtinctly, that a man may count the notes as they open. Of theſe three ſorts of mouths if your Kennel be (as near as you can) equally compounded, you ſhall find it moſt perfect & delectable: for though they have not the thunder and loudneſſe of the great dogs, which may be compared to the high wind-inſtruments, yet they will have the tunable ſweetneſs of the beſt compounded conſorts; and ſure a man may find as much Art and delight in a Lute, as in an Organ. But here me thinks, a too tender lover of a horſe ſtands at my elbow, and puls me by the ear with this Objection, that to train horſes after dogs of this exceeding ſwiftneſſe, will be a labour of that violence, which a young horſe will hardly endure: For firſt it will draw him ſo ſuddenly from his wind, that it will breed ſtopping in his body, and choaking up the paſſage of his breath, hazard the breaking of his Lungs, or the rimme of his belly, as hath been many times ſeen in horſes of great metal: Next, the horſe being young and unacquainted with exercise, it will breed in him a wearineſſe and loathing of his labour, and nothing is well done that it is not done with delighe: Laſtly, the horſe being foul of body, and unpurged, it may melt his greaſe too ſoon, ſtrain his ſinews and tender griſtles too much, and breed many diſeaſes, foul, and incurable, of which only too violent Labour is the ground-work. Objections againſt ſwift hounds.

To this objection I thus anſwer, that albeit the labour be for the time moſt violent, yet it is not of ſo long continuance as that which is more ſlow; and to run twelve ſcore ſwiftly, is not ſo painful, as to walk twenty miles. for you muſt underſtand that theſe ſwift hounds out of their metal and ſwiftneſſe do ſoon overſhoot and runne beyond the ſcent, and then retiring back upon it again, give the horſe time to eaſe himſelfe, and catch new breath; whereas the ſlower dogs carrying the ſcent ever before them, keep your horſe to a continual labour, which is more painful, and makes him a tough enduring Hackey, but not a moſt ſwift running Gentleman: beſides, the many faults and caſtings about of the ſwift dogs, add ſuch a comfort unto the horſe, who perceiveth the ſtrength of his labour to have no eaſe till he come up to thoſe Faults, that he will out of the willingneſſe of his own nature, double his courage to purſue the moſt The anſwer.

ſwift, ſeeing his eaſe is ever the greater, by how much he keepeth ever nearer to the hounds. For the danger of burſting, melting his greaſe, and other infirmities, the diſcretion of the Rider, and skill of the Keeper, muſt prevent, of whoſe Offices I have written largely in former Chapters in the Book called *Cheap* and *Good*: for be aſſured, thoſe dangers may happen as well after the ſloweſt dogs, as the ſwifteſt.

Correction of ſwift hounds haſte.

But to my purpoſe, ſince hounds are the ſubject of my diſcourſe: You ſhall underſtand that theſe ſwift hounds are, as is before ſaid, out of their haſte, nimbleneſs, and metall, more ſubject to make defaults then other hounds, yet full as curious and good of ſcent as any other, as you ſhall perceive by the quick knowledge and apprehenſion of their own errors, caſting about of themſelves, and recovering the ſcent, and ſo going away with the ſame, before any huntſman can come in to help them: yet I would wiſh every Gentleman-like husband-man, in the compoſition of this Kennel, to have ſome ſtaunch old dogs amongſt them, which running more ſoberly, yet cloſe with them, may ſit upon the ſcent, when they overſhoot it; and ſo call them back, and give them their loſſe without more trouble. Alſo I would have both in this Kennell, and every other, a couple at leaſt of good finders, being dogs ſtaunch of mouth, and not able to open, except they lie upon a certain trayle; for theſe will be great furtherers of your ſport, and make your younger dogs a great deal more mute and painful.

Of the High-way hounds.

You ſhal alſo in this, and all other Kennels, have at leaſt a couple of good high way dogs, that is to ſay, hounds of ſuch cunning and perfect ſcent, that they will hunt as well upon a dry, hard, high-way (where you cannot pick forth the paſſage of yonr Chaſe) as upon the freſheſt mould, or will hunt as truly through flocks of ſheep, or heards of beaſts, as upon the grounds where few or no beaſts come, theſe are called hounds for the high way, or guides of the Kennel, and are exceeding neceſſary, and fit for all mens pleaſure: for they take from the huntſman, both ſence of pain, and anger.

The kennell for exerciſe of body.

Laſtly, if you would compoſe a Kennel only for the exerciſe of your own body, or maintenance of health, you ſhall firſt draw into conſideratiou your own ability, as whether you

you will make your exercise on foot, or horse back. If your delight and ability draw you to hunt on foot, then I would wish you to compose your Kennel of the biggest and slowest dogs you can get, respecting only cunning hunting, and depth of mouth; and this Kennel you make so staunch and obedient to your command, that when they are upon the hottest scent, or in the earnestnesse of the chase, to step before them, and cast your hunting pole but before their eyes, they shall suddenly stop, and hunt after you in full cry; with no more speed then it shall please you to lead them; and then when you please, to let them goe before you again, to passe away with the scent roundly, and without stay.

This manner of hunting will carry with it a twofold delight, the one of enjoying the musick of their voices, the other the cunning of their noses: each striving to go before, yet none presuming without leave to go before: by this rule you shall bring the hottest scent, and the coldest scent to one manner of swiftnesse, and so neither offend your body with too much nor too little exercise. But if you will take your exercise on horseback, because infirmity will not let you run afoot, then you shall compose your Kennel of the slowest, or middle sized hounds, who shall have both good mouths, and loud, and noses of most ready scent, and perfect hunting: and if you bring these hounds also to the former obedience of stopping and hunting after you, it will be exceeding good and delightful, both to your eyes, and ears, and so bring your hounds to temperance and coolnesse in hunting, that taking the frensie and greedinesse of haste from their minds, they will make your sport much longer, and lesse weary, then else it would be.

But some will answer me, that albeit they have infirmities, which detaine them from running afoot, or labouring like lackies or drudges, yet they can endure ordinary and orderly walking, such as shall be fit for any moderate exercise; and therefore would hunt on foot: yet the great hound they like not for two causes; first his chargeable and troublesome keeping, and next his noisomnesse and pestering company in a house that is but streight, and of no more then of necessary use. To these I answer, that it is good for them to keep the little smal Mitten-Beagle,

which

which may be companion for a Ladies Kirtle, and in the field will hunt as cunningly as any hound whatſoever only their muſick is very ſmall, like reeds and their pace like their body; only for exerciſe, and not for ſlaughter.

Of the hounds Kennel.

Having thus compoſed your Kennel of hounds according to the humour of your own fancy and delight, it ſhall be meet then that you frame a Kennel or houſe to keep them in, wherein they may lie dry, and have their food and other neceſſaries about them, without troubling your dwelling houſe, or giving offence by their greedineſſe and ravening.

The ſituation of the Kennel.

This Kennel for hounds, would be placed a pretty diſtance from your dwelling houſe, near ſome river, pond, ſpring, or other freſh water: it would alſo ſtand againſt the ſide of ſome bank or hill, which looking directly againſt the Eaſt, the morning Sun might riſe upon the ſame, and not loſe the ſight of it till at leaſt two or three hours after noon, which will be a great refreſhing and comfort unto the hounds, which love naturally to ſtretch them, and pick themſelves in the Sun: againſt the ſide of this hill, would be cut or digged, divers large and broad ſeats one above another, containing at leaſt five foot in breadth, and two foot and a halfe in height, which ſeats would be either boarded, or watled with ſtakes and ſmall wands on the ſides, to hold up the earth from falling, and alſo cloſe boarded a loft; whereon you ſhall lay freſh and ſweet ſtraw for your dogs to lye upon: the number of theſe ſeats would be according to the number of your hounds, and the quality of the earth in largeneſſe: over theſe ſeats would be made a cloſe and well tiled ſhed, open no way but upon the Eaſt, and in ſuch manner that it may defend either all or moſt part of the ſeats from rain, wind or any tempeſt: from the loweſt part of theſe ſeats forward, you ſhall make a large green court, being either walled, paled, or otherwiſe very ſtrongly fenced about, in which your hounds may play, ſport, ſcummer, and do other offices of nature fit for their health: alſo in this court, in the moſt convenient corner of the ſame, you ſhall build a little houſe or lodge, with a ſpacious and large chimney in the ſame, wherein in the winter time you ſhall allow fire, before which your dogs returned (from hunting) may ſtretch, pick, dry and trim themſelves, which is an exceeding

ing comfort unto them, and wil make them more ſtrong and able to endure their Labour, and alſo keep them wonderfully wel both from the mangy and other filthy diſeaſes which proceed from colds taken after violent heating. In this Chimny your Huntſman ſhal have a large Cauldron, and other neceſſaries, as Ladles, Skummers, and ſuch like; for preparing and making ready of all ſuch warm meat as you ſhall allow to them, which if it be ſweet is called Mange; if otherwiſe, Carrion, or Garbage: above this lower Room ſhall be your Huntſmans Lodging, wherein he ſhall alſo keep his couples, Liams, Coſtars, Traſhes, Boxes and pots with ſalves and oyntments, for the cure of ſuch infirmities as ſhall happen amongſt them, and all other neceſſaries any way belonging to his office. In an other part of the court, and neereſt unto the houſe, you ſhall place troughs and tubs, ſome for their meat, and ſome for ſweet Water; all which muſt be kept very neat and clean; and Water muſt by no means at any time be wanting, yet oft renewed, and the veſſels ſcowred for ſweetneſſe ſake for the Huntſman ought to hold it for a Rule, that nothing bringeth more health than cleanneſſe. Into this kennel you ſhall by no meanes bring at any time Carrion, becauſe it wil make the place unſavory, and unfit for any man of worth to look into, and ſure it ought to be a place fit for every worthy Eye.

Now your Kennel being thus orderly, and wel prepared, it is meet that I ſhew what meat is meeteſt for hounds; how it ſhall be prepared, and how they ſhall be fed. Firſt then, intending that I only ſpeak of hunting hounds, that is to ſay, hounds which are in continual uſe & action, you ſhal underſtand that in their dayes of reſt, the ſtrongeſt and luſtieſt meat you can give them both for raiſing them up when they are low hunted, or for keeping them in ſtrength when they have luſt within them, is either horſe fleſh newly ſlain and warm at the feeding, the intrals and garbage of Beaſts (Lungs only excepted) or the heads, plucks, and bowels of ſheep, or generally any Carrion which is not old, nor cold after the death. To feed them for perfectneſſe of hunting, and to keep their ſents fine, pure and clean, or to purge the ſtench of the carrion out of their noſes, that thereby they may undergoe the work with more cunning, the beſt food is to give them Mange, Of Hounds.

Mange, made either of ground Oats, Barley Meale, Branne, or Mill-duſt, well ſcalded and boyled together, or any of theſe two mixt together and ſcalded with beef broath, or any other broath in which fleſh hath been ſodden, ſo as it be not too extream ſalt.

Now for the uſe and manner of feeding with theſe meats (as I ſaid before) horſe-fleſh, garbage, and other carrion is only to breed ſtrength, and luſt in a hound, and is to be given only when a hound reſteth; becauſe the ſtrength and ſmel of the ſame will ſo cloy and ſtop the hounds noſtrils, that he can hardly diſtinguiſh, or undertake any finer ſent, and ſo breed much hindrance to his hunting: Therefore you ought ever to feed your hounds at leaſt the day before you hunt, if not more, with ſweet meat.

Now for the manner of feeding with horſe fleſh, or any other carrion, you ſhall be ſure to have it a good diſtance from your Kennel, and ſo as it may be no annoyance either to your own neighbours, or travellers in the high Way; then firſt before your Hounds touch it, with your Knife take of the skin, then open the body, take out the bowels and rip them; then, if the body be more then either your hounds can, or muſt eat, take off a leg, or a ſhoulder; or ſuch part as you think fitteſt to preſerve, and lay it by; then let your hounds feed on the reſt, till their bodies be well filled: which done, draw your hounds home and upon ſome ſtange for the purpoſe, carry with you that which you ſaved; which as ſoon as you have ſhut up your hounds, you ſhall bear to the River, or freſh Water, and lay it in the ſame until you have occaſion to uſe it; for it will keep it ſweet a week or more at leaſt, if need require.

Now for feeding with Mange, or ſweet meat, it would ever be done the day before you hunt, and as it is to be prepared in the Kennel, ſo you ſhall let them eat it in troughs, within the Kennel, for that will make them take delight in the place; and this Mange muſt ever be given warm, and made ſomewhat thick, and if you white it over with milke, or butter milk, and if you caſt into it chippings, cruſt of bread, bones, broken meat, or ſcraping of trenchers, it will be better, and they will eat it with more greedineſs.

If

If you have hounds that are poor, weak, or ſickly, which you would ſuddenly recover and bring unto hunting: Then if you take ſheeps heads, wool and all, and hack, hew, and bruiſe them in many pieces; then boyl them with Oatmeal, and Penny-royal and make ſtrong pottage of the ſame, and give all together warm to your ſick hounds, and it will ſuddenly recover them; if once in a week alſo you give them a full meal of warm horſe fleſh, it is very ſoveraign. Meat for ſick and weak hounds.

Now for the beſt times of feeding, it is held amongſt all our beſt experienc't Huntſmen, to be in the dayes of reſt, early in the morning before Sun riſe, and in the Evening at Sunne ſet: But in the dayes of hunting, you ſhall let them go faſting out of the Kennel & feed them as ſoon as you come home to the Kennel or before in your way homeward, if you have any horſe fleſh, or other Carrion readily provided: otherwiſe with ſuch meat as you have, ſo it will fill their bellies; for a hound by no means would be pinched of his belly after his labour, and therefore be ſure if your meat be coorſe to fill his guts well; if it be ſweet, ſtrong and comfortable, then leſſe will ſerve him. Beſt hours of feeding.

And here I think it meet to ſpeak of a convenient proportion of food, for the maintenance of a Kennel of good hounds: Where in you ſhall underſtand that three buſhels of Oats, or Barley-meal, with half ſo much Branne or Mil duſt, is a fit weekly proportion to keep nine or ten couple of hounds; with a little help of horſe fleſh, if the huntſman be any good husband, and painful as he ought to be in finding out horſes, ſcraps, cruſts and bones, which almoſt abound in every mans houſe of any worth or reckoning & by imploying that which is ſaved in the daies of labour to increaſe the proportion when need ſhal require: Many much larger quantities I have known, and do know allowed this day in divers places; but I have held it an abuſe to the Maſter, & either a covetouſneſs or negligence in the huntſman, by whoſe unskilful greedineſs, I have ſeen many tyred out of their pleaſures. Therefore be aſſured this quantity already named, will fully ſuffice, nay, even to pleaſe a moſt wonton curioſity; and ſurely much leſs, if a painfull Huntſman have the government: for I ſhall never ſee fairer or better kept hounds, then I have ſeen mainted with half this proportion; but as I would not be too A proportion of meat.

laviſh in my directions, ſo I would much leſs be too ſtrait handled, hoping that every man of honeſty and truſt will order his affairs with diſcretion.

Ordering of Hounds after hunting.

Now for the ordering of your hounds after they have done hunting, you ſhall, if you feed them abroad or otherwiſe, as ſoon as you bring them into the Kennel, waſh all their feet either with a little warm butter and bees, beefbroth, or water, wherein Mallows and Nettles have been boyled ſoft and tender, you ſhall pick every cley, and ſearch the foot for thorns, ſtubs, or any other pricklings; you ſhall look that the ſtraw whereon they lye, be ſweet and friſh; and if it be in the ſtrength of Winter after they are fed, you ſhall ſuffer them for an hour or two to beak and ſtretch themſelves before the fire, ere they go to lye down for all night, and by no means trouble them as long as they licke, pick, or trim themſelves; but that once finiſhed, you ſhall force them from the fire, and make them find out their Lodgings.

CHAP. II.

The curing of all manner of infirmities in Hounds.

NExt unto theſe precepts, it is meet you be skilfull in curing of all the diſeaſes in hounds, of which as there be many ſo here you ſhall partake many rules for the ſame, both perfect, and excellently approved by late experience. And firſt of all, in as much as it is an infirmity of all other moſt general, natural, and as it were not to be divided from Dogs I will begin with the killing of fleas and lice, and ſuch like vermine in hounds which proceeds from filthy keeping, rotten and moiſt lodging, and want of ſhifting of ſtraw when it growes ſhort by much lying on: if then your hound be troubled with fleas or lice, you ſhall take Rue or hearb of Grace four or five handfuls, and boyl it in a gallon of running water till a pottle be full conſumed, then ſtrain it through a coorſe cloath, and put to it two ounces of ſtrong *Staveſaker* beaten to powder, and being warm, bath your hound therewith and it will deſtroy them.

Of killing fleas and lice.

To kill worms

If your hound be troubled with worms, which is very generall amongſt them, eſpecially the young hounds, then you ſhall take a pint of new milk and mixe it with a good quantity

tity of Brimſtone, and ſo give it luke-warm unto the hound, and it will not only ſcowr away all manner of wormes, but all other filthineſs bred in the body of a hound, either by labour or ſurfeit.

If your Dogge have been bitten by either Snake, Adder, or any other venemous thing, take the hearb Calamint, and beat it in a morter, with Turpentine and yellow waxe, till it come to a ſalve, and then apply it to the ſore and it will heal it: Alſo if you boyl the hearb in milk, and give the dog it to drink, it will expel all inward poyſon. Biting with venemous beaſts.

If your hound have been bitten with another mad Dogge, which is a diſeaſe exceeding dangerous and mortall, you ſhall preſently waſh the place ſo bitten with Sea water or a very ſtrong brine, and it will ſave and cure him; or elſe take the hearb called Yarrow, and beat a handfull thereof in a morter, with a handful of wheat till it come to a ſalve, and then lay it to the ſore, and it will heal it: and if you pour into his ſtomack as much Mithridate as a hazel nut, diſſolved in ſweet wine, it will wonderfully ſcour and preſerve him from the infection of the inward poyſon. Biting with a Mad dog.

The infirmity of madneſs it ſelf in Doggs, is common and oft to be ſeen, and though it be altogether incurible, yet if a man be experienced in the firſt ſigns or characters of madneſs, he may prevent divers miſchiefs, and moſt mortal evils, which enſue for want of ſuch knowledge, and albeit he loſe one Dogge, yet he may ſave all the reſt: the firſt ſign therefore to know when a Dogge is entring into this diſeaſe, is a melancholy ſeparating himſelf from other Doggs, and walking up and down alone, oft caſting up his head into the wind, and looking upward, his tayle at the ſetting on, riſing upward, and the reſt hanging down, his month will foam and be full of ſlaver or white froth, as he runneth up and down he will haſtily ſnatch at every thing that he meeteth with, yet, but only give one ſnatch and away, his eyes will be red and more fiery then other Dogs, and his breath will be ſtrong and of a filthy ſavour: any of theſe ſigns when you ſhall perceive, you ſhall preſently ſeparate him from other Doggs and kill him, for unto the diſeaſe is no cure. Of a mad dog and the ſigns.

If your hound be gauld, or his skinne torn in any part, you ſhall Of Gauling.

ſhall only take *May* butter, yellow Waxe, and a little unſlacke Lime beaten together like a ſalve, and therewith anoint the ſore place, and it is a preſent cure.

Of a Tetter. If your hound (as they are much incident thereunto) have any tetter or dry ſcab, you ſhall take of black ink, the juyce of mints and vinegar of each alike quantity, and mix them together with the powder of Brimſtone till it be thick like a ſalve, and then annoint the tetter therewith till it bleed, and it will ſoon kill and cure it.

For the Itch. If your hound be troubled with the itch, you ſhall take Nerve-oyl, and beat it with quick-ſilver till the quickſilver be kil'd, and the ſalve turned to a pale yellow colour, then with the ſame annoint the Dog before a good fire, and chaſe it well againſt the hair and it will cure him.

Of the mangy or ſcab. But, if your hound be troubled with the ſcab or mangy, then you ſhall take a penny-worth or two of the beſt gun-powder you can buy, and mixing it with very ſtrong wine vinegar, make it thick like puddle, then with the ſame annoint all the places where he ſcratcheth till they bleed, and it will kill the mangy; there be others which do uſe to caſt their Doggs into the Lime-pits of Tanners, or Glovers, and force them to ſwim up and down the ſame, and it will kill the mangy; yet there muſt be a great care taken in putting the Dogs in, leſt doing it raſhly, the Lime water get into their eyes, which is very dangerous, and will hazzard their burning out.

Of Wounds. If your hound ſhall receive any wound, whether it be with ſharp or blunt weapon, or any accident whatſoever, although his own tongue be a ſoveraign ſalve, yet if it be in any part, where either he can or will not lick it, the beſt cure is to waſh it with warm butter and vinegar mixt together, and then annoint it with a little Venice Turpentine; but if it be a hollow wound, and muſt of force be tented, then you ſhall either tent it with ſweet butter and oatmeale, wrought together to a ſalve, or with yellow Wax and Deer-ſuet; there be ſome that will uſe for a tent a ſmall candles end, & it is very good if the tallow be ſweet, but if it be putrified then it will poyſon and corrupt the wound.

Of a Canker in the Ear. If your hound be troubled with a canker in his ears, which is a grief much incident unto them; you ſhall firſt rent the hole

if

if you find any, with dry cork, and after waſh the ſore with vineger and allome, mixt together, till the fleſh look raw, and after dry it with burnt Allom only.

If your hound be ſurbaited, you ſhall waſh his feet with butter and beer boyled together, and then bind to the ſoles of his feet young red nettles, chopt very ſmall, or beaten in a morter till they come to a ſalve. Of ſurbaiting.

For any manner of bruiſe which ſhall happen to your hound, either by ruſh, ſpurn, ſtroke or otherwiſe, if it appear and ſwell outwardly, you ſhall bath the place, with chick-weed, and groundſal, boiled in ſtrong Ale dregs till they be ſoft, and it will allay the ſwelling: but if the bruiſe be inward, then you ſhall with a horn give the Dog a pint of new milk, and a quarter of an ounce of *Sperma cæti* well mixt together, or for want of *Sperma cæti*, double ſo much *Stone-pitch* beaten to fine powder. Of Bruiſe.

If your hound be troubled with the ſtone, or other filthy matter, which maketh him that he cannot piſs, you ſhall take the ſeeds of the herb *Granum ſolis*, or *Gromel*, and bruiſing them give them to the hound in half a pint of white wine. For the ſtone.

If your hound (as it is natural to Dogges) be ſo coſtive that he can by no means skummer, you ſhall firſt take a piece of a tallow candle, about three fingers in length, and thruſt it a good way into the tuel of the hound, and then hold down his tayle hard a quarter of an hour or more, and then give it liberty, and when he hath emptied his belly, you ſhall give him to drink five or ſixe ſpoonfulls of Sallet oyle, and it will cleanſe him ſufficiently. For coſtiveneſs.

If your hound be troubled with any diſeaſe in his ears, whether it be a coutinual running, or any other impoſtumation, you ſhall take verjuyce and chervile water, and mixe them together, and each morning and evening drop a ſpoonfull or two thereof into the Dogges ears, and you ſhall find it a preſent Remedy. For any diſeaſe in the Ear.

If your Dog at any time be troubled with ſore eyes, of what Nature or Quality ſoever the grief be: you ſhall take a leafe or two of ground Ivy, and chewing it well in your mouth, and ſucking out the juyce, ſpit the ſame into the Doggs eyes morning and evening, and it will cure them. This ground Ivy is a little round rough jaggy leaf, and grows in the bottome of hedges. For ſore Eye

If

If your hound ſhall happen to break a legge or any other bone, you ſhall firſt with your hand place it in his true place, and ſee that it ſtand ſtreight and eeven, then bath it in the warm oyl of ſwallows, or the oyl of *Mandrake* apples, and wrappe it about two or three times, in a ſear-cloath made of yellow waxe and Deers ſuet; which done, ſplent it with flat ſplents of wood, and ſo role it with a ſtrong roler, and let it ſo reſt nine dayes at leaſt, before you unſplent it, but remove not the ſeare-cloath for fifteen dayes, and you ſhall ſee the bone will knit ſtrongly and firmly.

CHAP. III.

Of the breeding of all manner of hounds.

HAving thus paſſed over the election of hounds, compoſition of Kennels, dieting, and curing of all ſorts of diſeaſes; I hold it meeteſt now to follow with ſome ſhort precepts the breeding of Hounds, becauſe it is exceeding hard, for any man to have a Kennel of hounds from gift or purchaſe without much imperfection: for though one friend give you a good hound, another ſels you a good hound, yet how their goodneſſes wil agree when they run together, is very diſputable: and truly unleſs your hounds have one ſpeed, one tuneableneſs of voyce, and one manner of hunting, your paſtime will be much diſorderly; which there is no way to get ſo eaſily and truly, as by the breeding of your hounds for one and the ſame birth produceth one and the ſame qualities; therefore having a hound and a bratch of that ſize, voyce, ſpeed, ſent, proportion, and general goodneſs which agreeth beſt with your own nature and condition, you ſhall put them together to ingender and breed, either in *January*, *February*, or *March*, according as they ſhall grow proud, for thoſe are the three moſt principal months in the year, for hounds, bitches or bratches, to be limed in: not but that they may conceive and bring forth as good Whelps in other months; but becauſe there will be much loſſe of time in the entring of them: for if a bratch be limed in *January*, ſhe will whelp her Litter in *March*, and ſo they wil be ready to enter in the firſt beginning of hunting-time: if ſhe be Limed in *February*, ſhe will whelp in *April*, and if ſhe be Limed in *March*

Hounds muſt uſe one another.

The months to breed in.

March, ſhe will whelp in *May* following: and in all theſe three Moneths there is not a dayes loſſe, for the entring of the whelps; which is an eſpecial care to be obſerved of Huntſmen.

Alſo if you ſhall let your hounds ingender in the three moneths aforeſaid, you ſhall not forget to obſerve as near as you can, that when you put the Dog and Bitch firſt together, the Moon be either in the ſigne *Aquarius* or *Gemini*; for it is held amongſt the beſt Huntſ-men of this Land, that the whelps which are ingendred under thoſe two ſigns, will never run mad; and for the moſt part, the Litter will have at leaſt double ſo many Dog-whelps, as Bitch Whelps. When your Bitch is near whelping, or hath whelped, you ſhall ſeparate her from other hounds, and have a private kennel for her, where ſhe may be alone without company of other hounds; and you ſhall duely every night ſee her kenneld in the ſame, that ſhe may take acquaintance and delight therein; and when you feed her particularly, you ſhall feed her in that kennel, that taking a love thereto ſhe may not ſeek out other unfit and unwholeſome places to whelp in: for where a bitch firſt whelpeth her Litter, if they be removed, ſhe will not leave carrying her Whelps up and down, till ſhe have found the ſame place again, or ſome other perhaps more unfit then the former, and ſuch carriage of Whelps by the Dam is very ill and dangerous: this kennel where your Whelps ſhall remain, ſhall not be kept cloſe, but open, that the bitch may have liberty to go up and down after twenty four hours ſpace, which time ſhe ſhall be kept very well, cloſe and warm, that ſhe may perform the natural office of a Dam to her whelps.

Under which ſigns to breed.

Ordering of Bitches after whelping.

You ſhall not ſuffer your Whelps to ſuck above two moneths at the moſt, but then you ſhall Wean them, and if the houſe you keep be of great receit and many ſervants, you ſhall let your Cook bring up your beſt Whelps, and your Dairy-maid your ſecond beſt, and the reſt you ſhall put forth amongſt your friends, or Tenants, according unto the love you poſſeſſe in the Countrey.

When to wean whelps.

Now when your Whelps are brought up, you ſhall not enter them into hunting before they be at leaſt a year and half old, as thus,

When to enter whelps.

thus, if your Whelps were whelpt in *March*, then you ſhall not enter them untill *September* come twelve moneths after: and if they were whelpt in *April*, then you ſhall enter them in *October* come twelve moneths after. And ſo forth, for the reſt of the moneths.

How to enter Whelps.

Now for the manner of your entring of Whelps, you ſhall draw them abroad in the pleaſanteſt of the day, with the moſt ſtaunch and beſt hunting hounds you have, leaving at home all babling and flying Curs; and if you can, you ſhall have your Hare ready ſet before you come, (for the Hare is the principal chaſe you can enter Whelps upon) and then putting her from her form, and viewing perfectly which way ſhe taketh, after the ſent is a little cooled, lay on your hounds, and give them all the advantages you can for the hunting of her, as by wind, view, hollow, or pricking her paſſage: and if they ſhall chance to kill her; you ſhall immediately take her from the hounds, and not ſuffer them to break her, for it is an evil cuſtome, but your ſelf ſtripping away the skin, ſhall cut her all to pieces, and give every part of her to your young Whelps, which will breed in them great courage and delight in hunting.

Obſervations in the entring of Whelps.

You ſhall obſerve in the entring of your young whelps, that they hunt fair and even, without advantage, or ſeeking any way to gain eaſe, as by lying off from the ſent, thwarting or croſſing when they are behind to get even with the formoſt hounds: any of which when you ſhall perceive, you ſhall immediatly beat them in with your hunting pole, and compell them to take the ſent before them: alſo if any of them be giddy headed and out of mettle will run before the other hounds clean from the ſent, in this caſe alſo you ſhall beat them ſoundly back, and bring them back to the ſent, and force them to take it with the reſt of the Kennel. Alſo if any young hound will not ſtrike upon a default, but run babling away without the ſent, drawing away the reſt of the Kennel to follow him; in this caſe alſo you ſhall ſcourge him back, and compel him to ſtand and labour upon the default, till ſome of the elder hounds undertake it, then you ſhall cheriſh all both with horn and voyce into the Chaſe.

Laſtly, if you find that any of your young Whelps truſt more

to

to his own sent than to the rest of his fellows, and so by that meanes hunteth at least twenty foot sometimes behind the rest, making his defaults by his own nose, and not their own leading, yet hunteth very just and true: In this case you shall by no means over-goe, or over-ride the Whelp, but give him all comfort and encouragement you can, and let him take his own time and leisure, for use and experience will quickly make him skilful, and the skill will soon carry him up, among his fellows where hee will soon become a principall Leader: and thus much for Hounds, and the composition of kennels.

CHAP. 4.

Of all the several Chases which Hounds are to hunt.

THere hath already (by many well experienced men) been so much written of this Subject, that I know not well what to write, except I should in some sort repeat another mans tale: from which I am so far different (having vowed to my self, by no means to meddle with any thing formerly written) that the strictest examiner whosoever, shall not find me guilty of the least blemish therein: yet since I must necessarily in this case write something, I will as briefly as I can set downe some materiall and speciall notes, and for the main substance if they desire a long continued circumstance (though this is sufficient for any understanding wit) referre them unto old *Tristram*'s book, translated by Mr. *Turbervile*, and such other Books, where they may find compleat satisfaction.

The hunting of the Stag.

To speak then first of the Stagge, which is the most Princely and royall Chase of all Chases, and for whom indeed this Art of Hunting was first found out, and invented: he is of all Beasts the goodliest, statliest, and most manly, and for the use of Man, the fullest both of outward and inward profit, as in his flesh for the nourishment of Mans body, and in his other members for helps in Physick: as the bone in his heart, which is Soveraign for all inward faint sicknesses, for Poyson, the Plague, and hard Travail in women; his blood excellent for all kind of Fluxes,

and to make the skin white and smooth; his pizle good for the Colick and bloody flux; His Horne a most soveraigne Cordial against venome; his suet good for swellings, Gouts, and Humors; and his skinne, which is ever a during and Gentlemanly cloathing: and of Stagges, the olded and greatest is the best.

How to know an old Stag.

The perfect signs to know an old Stagge by, are these; if when you take his view upon the ground, you see he hath a large foot, a thick heele, and a deep printing, and open cleft, and a long space; then be assured he is old: also if his legge be long, and his bone thick, it shewes age, besides your old Sagge doth not over-reach, when your younger Deer doth: also you shall know his age by his ordure, as thus if it be printed (as it will be from *July* to *August*) or writhen round, or flat, or broad, as it will be in *June*, and therewithall be gross and fatty, then he is an old Stagge; but if contrarily small and dry, then he is but a young Deer: you shall know his age by the tines of the hornes, for if he have ten, twelve, or fourteen tines, he is a Deer of reasonable age, but if the beame bee thick and great, then hee is an old Deer; so if hee carry but some six or eight tines, and a small beame, then hee is a young Deer, and not above three or four years old, for the Red Deer is said the first year to have no head, the second but onely daggers, and the third tines.

The cast of Heads.

Stags yeerly cast their heads in *March*, *April*, *May*, or *June*, and in no other months, according to the goodnesse of the Soil whereinthey feed, for the richest ground beareth ever the earliest Deer, and a Deer is never said to be in season, nor may hee by good rule be hunted till he have cast his head.

How to find a Deer.

The principall quality in a Husbandman, is, to know how and where to find a Deer; for if hee be ignorant in their haunts, hee may wander long, and lose much labour. Therefore hee shall know, that a Red Deer naturally haunteth in *November* amongst Furrs, Whins, or thick Shrubs; In *December* amongst thick and strong woods: In *January* in Corn-fields of Wheat and Rye. In *February* and *March* amongst young and thick bushes; In *April* and *May* in Coppices and Spring; In *June* and *July* in outwoods, and purlews which are neatest unto green Corn,

and

and in *September* and *Octoberr*, after the first showers of rain they go to Rut.

Now when the Huntsman will at any time search any of these places to find his game, hee must bee carefull by no means to go downe, but up the wind; for a Deer is of most dainty sent, and upon the least fault will fly and leave his feed: therefore hee must come carily and closely, with a quck ear, and a ready eye.

The hunting of the Stag.

Now the best time to find out yout Game, is early before Sunne rise, at which time the Deer goeth to his food: from whence you shall watch unto his Leir, and having lodged him, you may returne home and prepare all thing for the dayes hunting: for be assured, except violently compeld, he will not stir until Evening.

Now for the manner of his hunting: you shall first cast off your finders, neer his place of lodging, and after they have hunted him about a ring or two, you shall cast in the rest of your hounds, and beeing in full cry and main chase, you shall give them comfort both with horne and sight of the Deer, and take what especial notes or marks you can from him, so that as much as is possible you may know him from any other Deer; then at every default, as soon as the hounds are in cry again, you shall make in to the hunted Deer, and view him, and if you find it to bee a fresh Deer, you shall rate the Dogs, and bring them back to the default, and there make them cast about again, untill they have undertaken the first hunted Deer, then give them comfort by hollowing and Gibelts, and so continue the chase till you have either set up the Deer or slain him, ever and anon having a watchfull eye unto change: for it is the nature of a Deer, when he is once imboft, or weary, to seek where hee may find another Deer, and to beat him up and lay himselfe downe in his place.

To know when a Stagge is weary, you shall see him imboft, that is, foaming and slavering about the mouth with a thick white froath, his hair will look blach, shining and foul with sweat, and hee will rappish oft, that is, he will ever and anon be lying down and lurking in dark holes and corners, and for his last

To know when a Stag is weary.

Refuge hee will betake himselfe to the foyl, which is, hee will leape (if he can) into rivers, ponds, or other water, out of which you shall force him either by art or strength: And thus much for the Chace or hunting of the Stagge.

Of the Buck. Now for the hunting of the Buck: forasmuch as they are most usually kept in parks, and that every Keeper, which is worthy to be a Keeper, may sooner from his own experience then from any Reading, get the experience of the ground hee tendeth, and sith hee is bound both by the Laws of Huntsmen and good manners, to give every Man contentment, that is priviledged to hunt in his ground: And sith whosoever can hunt a Stagge well, cannot hunt a Buck ill, the Red Deer being ever far more curious to hunt, then the Fallow, I will not spend any more time to write of it, but referre you to those Rules which are already Rehearsed.

Of the Hare. Touching the hunting of the Hare, which is every honest Mans, and good Mans chase, and which is indeed the freest, readiest and most induring pastime, and likewise in it's own kind, full of good profit for Mans Preservation: For though the beast be but little, yet are the members worth injoyment, as the flesh, which is good for all manner of Fluxes; the brains good to make children breed their teeth with ease; the wool excellent to stanch blood; the Gall soveraign for sore eyes, the blood which will kill Rheume, and Worms; the sifting bone, which being worn, taketh away the pain of the Cramp, with many other good things besides.

Of her profits.

The hunting of the Hare. Touching the hunting of the Hare, you are first to regard the place of hunting, as whether it bee in Woods, or Champain: if in Woods, you shall not cast off your dogs in the thickest of the covert, but rather beat the bush close or shrubby grownd near adjoyning to the cover: for though in the Woods you may sooner find a Hare; yet commonly you shall find such change therewithall, that you shall hardly bring any forth to worth your pleasure, where, on the contrary part, if you find any in those neighbouring grounds, she will presently fly forth into the champane: because naturally a Hare will refuse the covert, till shee begin to be weary; and a Hare being once heated, is not so easily

Where to find hares.

ſilly loſt upon a freſh change, as when the ſents are of equal coolneſſe. If you hunt in the champane, you ſhall firſt beat thoſe places which are moſt likely, as where Gorſe or Whinnes grow, or in grounds that are all ruſhes, ſhort linge, bramble buſhes, or ſuch like: or if the champain be more plain and void of ſuch places, then you ſhall at the beginning of the year repair to the ſhrubs, about Chriſtmas to the fallows and in *March* to the green Corn; for thoſe are the moſt uſual hounts for the beſt Hares, and in all theſe places you ſhall regard the Form, or Hares ſeat well, and know whether it be old or new, as if the Form be plain and ſmooth within, the pad before it flat and worn, and the pricks ſo new, and eaſie to be ſeen, that the earth appear black, and as it were preſently broken, then is the Form new, and if the Hounds call upon it, then may you hunt from thence, and upon the trail recover that Hare; but if the Form look old and rough within, and the pad it ſelf be not ſmooth, nor any pricks to be diſcerned therein, then it is old, and if the Hounds call upon it, you ſhall rate them, for the ſent is old, and all the labour will be loſt you ſpend upon it. The knowledge of the Hares Form.

The next thing you obſerve muſt be the ſhifts and ſleights of the Hare, when ſhe is wearly hunted, as her doublings and windings, and at every default give the Hounds leiſure enough and compaſſe enough in the caſting about of your rings for the unwinding of the ſame, then you ſhall obſerve her leaps and skips before ſhe ſquat, and beat all thoſe places very curiouſly which are likely to give her any harbour, and though the loſſe ſeem never ſo dangerous, yet not to be diſcouraged, but to continue your ſearch, becauſe when ſhe cometh to thoſe hard ſhifts ſhe is at the laſt caſt, and cannot ſtand long before the Hounds. Many other circumſtances there are, but they are ſo generally known to almoſt every man that any way affecteth this pleaſure, that it is needleſſe to make further relation thereof; and therefore I hold this ſufficient for the hunting of the Hare. The Hares ſleights and ſhifts.

Now for the hunting of the Fox, or Badger, they are chaſes of a great deal leſſe uſe, or cunning then any of the former, becauſe they are of much hotter ſent, as being intituled ſtinking ſents and not ſweet ſents, and indeed very few Dogs but will hunt them The hunting of the Fox or Badger.

with

with all eagerneſſe; therefore I will not ſtand much upon them, but adviſe you to reſpect well their haunts and coverts, which commonly is in Woods and buſhy places, and to take knowledge of their earths, and Kennels, and as near as you can when you go about to hunt them, to ſtop up their Kennels, and keep them out that fling forth, that they may be the ſooner brought to their deſtruction; the chaſe is profitable and pleaſant for the time, inſomuch as there are not ſo many defaults, but a continuing ſport; yet not ſo much deſired as the reſt, becauſe there is not ſo much art and cunning; and thus much for chaſes, and the general uſe of all kind of hunting.

The end of Hunting.

Of

Of Hawking.

CHAP. V.

Of Hawking, with all ſorts of Hawks, and the whole Art thereof.

IF your Engliſh Husband-man ſhall for his Recreation, chuſe the pleaſure of Hawking which is a moſt Princely and ſerious delight; he ſhall underſtand that all Hawks are divided into two kinds, the long winged Hawk, and the ſhort: the long winged Hawks which are meet for our Husbandmans recreation, are the *Faulcon gentle*, and her *Tercell*; the *Gerfaulcon* and her *Genkin*; the *Saker*, the *Lanner*, the *Barbary Faulcon*; the *Merlin*, and the *Hobby*: and the ſhort winged *Hawks, are the Goſhake*, the *Tercell* of the *Goſhake*, the *Sparrowhawk*, and the *Munket*. Kinds of hawks.

The *Faulcon gentle*, which is the principall of *Hawks* may be made either for the field or river, and will flie at the Partridge, or at the Mallard; the *Gerfaulcon* will flie either at the Herron; the Saker at the Crane or Bitter; the *Lanner* will flie at the Partridge, Pheſant, or Chooffe; the *Barbary Faulcon* at the Partridge only; the *Merlin* and the *Hobby* at the Lark, or any ſmall bird whatſoever; the *Goſhawk* or *Tercell* of *Goſhawk*, at the Partridge, Pheſant, or Hare; the *Sparrow-hawk* at the Partridge or Black bird, and the *Musket* at the Buſh only; and all theſe Hawks are hardy, meek, and loving to the man, The flight of hawks.

The manning of hawks.

All Hawks generally are manned after one manner, that is to ſay, by watching and keeping them from ſleep, by a continuall carrying them upon your fiſt, and by a moſt familiar ſtroaking and playing with them, with the wing of a dead foul, or ſuch like, and by often gazing and looking them in the face, with a loving and gentle countenance, and ſo making them acquainted with the man.

Of Luring hawks.

After your Hawks are manned, you ſhall bring them to the Lure by eaſie degrees, as firſt, making them jump unto the fiſt, after fall upon the Lure, then come to the voice, and laſtly, to know the voyce and Lure ſo perfectly, that either upon the ſound of the one, or ſight of the other, ſhe will preſently come in, and be moſt obedient, which may eaſily be performed, by giving her reward when ſhe doth your pleaſure, and making her faſt when ſhe diſobeyeth: ſhort-wing'd hawks ſhall be called to the fiſt only, and not to the Lure; neither ſhall you uſe unto them, the loudneſſe and variety of voice, which you do to the long winged Hawks, but only bring them to the fiſt by chirping your lips together, or elſe by the whiſtle: And in this manner of Luring, and calling of hawks, (for ſhort-winged hawks are ſaid to be called, and not Lured) you ſhall ſpecially acquaint your hawk with three things: Firſt boldneſſe and acquaintance with men, dogs and horſes; then that ſhe be eager and ſharp ſet before the Lure be ſhewed her, knowing both the morning and evening hours of her luring; and laſtly, to delight her the more with the Lure, to have it ever garniſhed on both ſides with warm and bloody meat.

The bathing of hawks.

When your Hawks are throughly manned and lured, and are come to the height of fleſh and good luſt, you ſhall then ſpy out a fair day when the weather and aire is moſt temperate, and carry your hawk to ſome fair, little, ſhallow, ſandy, running brook, or Rundle, where the water is quiet and ſtill, and where your hawk may ſtand up to the mid thigh therein, and having prickt her down, and made her faſt hard by the verdge thereof, you ſhall take off her hood, and go a little way from her, and ſee whether ſhe will bathe therein; but if you find her fearful of the water, you ſhall with a little ſtick paddle in the water a while before

before her, and then depart from her again, and let her then bathe therein as long as ſhe pleaſeth: this done, you ſhall take her upon your fiſt, and give her a bit or two of meat, then hold her in the Sun, and let her pick, prune, and dry her ſelfe again: if you cannot come to any River, Brook, or Rundle conveniently, then you ſhould provide either a large baſon, or a broad ſhallow tub, and ſo in it let your hawk bathe as oft as occaſion ſhall ſerve, for this bathing giveth a hawk courage, boldneſſe, and a great appetite, and would commonly be uſed the day or morning before any flight: If it be in the winter that your hawk batheth, when no Sun ſhineth, you may then dry her as well by the gentle air of the fire as otherwiſe.

To enſeam your Hawk, which is to cleanſe her from greaſe, fat and glut, which lieth inwardly in her body, and which you ſhall know by her round thighs, her fleſh, and full mewtings; then when you feed her in the morning, give her a bit or two of hot meat, and the night following little or nothing; then morning and evening after, feed her upon the fleſh of a Rook waſht in two waters, till you feel the pinions of her wings more tender then they were before, then give her caſting according to her nature, as was before ſhewed, and once in two or three dayes give her a hens neck well jointed and waſht in water, which will by the ſharpneſſe thereof break the kels and filmes of fat which are in her body; then every morning you ſhall give her a quick traine Pidgeon, and keep her ſo long upon her wing, that by her own moderate exerciſe, ſhe may melt and diſſolve the greaſe that molleſteth her, which after it is broken, you may take away, by giving her three or four pellets of the root of Sellandine, as big as garden peaſe, well waſht and ſcoured, and if you ſteep thoſe pellets in the ſyrup of Roſes, the ſcouring is much ſtronger. *Of Enſeaming giving, caſting and ſcouring.*

When your Hawk is manned, lured, and enſeamed, you ſhall then bring her to her flight, which if it be at the Pheaſant or Partridge in woody and cloſe grounds, then you ſhall when you lure the hawk, caſt your lure into ſome lovv Tree or Buſh, that thereby you may bring her to take the ſtand; which when ſhe doth, you ſhall then draw out your lure, and giving her notice thereof, make her ſeize thereon, and ever feed her on *Of flying at the Pheaſant or Partridge.*

the ground, and under a bush, the practice whereof will bring her to delight in the stand, and to mark all the advantages which she shall get from thence; then bringing her to either Pheasant or Partridge, make her flie at a young one first, that being more foolish, and easier slain, she may take delight in her conquest. But if you flie any long-winged Hawk in the champane, then you shall by all means possible keep her from the stand, and only maintain her upon her wing, till you spring the Partridge underneath her, and then stooping upon the advantage, the prey can hardly escape her: yet for the more sure killing of the game, and entring of young Hawks, you shall first spring the Partridge and mark them, then being come to the mark, cast off your Hawk, and when she is gotten to the height of her gate, lay in your Spannels, and then retriving the Partridge underneath her after the first flight, it is impossible she should escape: And in this sort you may flye all manner of long-winged Hawks, for it is not proper to flie them from the fist, although most of our late Faulconers now adayes use it; but for your short-winged Hawks, you shall flie them from the fist only: And therefore to make them hardy and valiant, you shall first enter them at an old field Partride, laid in a hole, and covered either with a sodde, board, or hat, at which you shall fasten a small Creance, and then uncoupling your Spannels, as they are ranging about, suddenly, when your Hawks head is towards the Partride, pluck off the sodde or hat, and let the train go, and the Hawk after it, which assoon as she hath slain, reward her very well, and thus doing twice or thrice, you may after venter to flie her at your pleasure.

Of flying at fouls.

To make your Hawk flie at foule, which is called the flight at the River, you shall first whistle off an approved well quarried Hawk that is a sure killer, and let her enew the foule so long, till she bring it to the plunge: then take her down and reward her, and set her by, yet so as you may have her ready to use at your pleasure, then whistle off your young Hawk, and when she is at the height of her gate, and that you have shewed her water divers times to make her the more inward, and by a gibbet call'd her in, when at any time she hath looked out. Then being just over the fowl, make in with all your company on every side the River,

River, and ſo lay forth the ſowle, which if your Hawk ſtoop, ſtrike, and truſſe, you ſhall preſently make into her, and help her, and then croſſing the ſoules wing, or breaking them, let your Hawk take her pleaſure thereon, but if ſhe do not ſlay the ſoule at the firſt ſtooping, then you ſhall give your hawk pleaſure to recover her gate again, and then lay forth the foul as before, not leaving thus to do till you have landed it, and that the Hawk hath ſlain it, and then reward her as aforeſaid: But if ſuch a miſchiefe ſhall fall out that the foul do ſcape and break away: then you ſhall be ſure to have a little Mallard ready in your bag, which you may caſt forth, and ſo reward your Hawk thereon.

Helps for faults in long winged hawks and firſt of the ſtand.

If your long winged Hawk flying at the River, or in champane fields, uſe to take ſtand, which is a ſoule fault, you ſhall firſt by all means ſhun flying neer Trees or Covert: but if that do not ſuffice, then you ſhall have divers trains in divers mens hands, and when the Hawk offers to go to the ſtand, let him which is next her caſt out his train, and ſhe kill it, reward her: this doing once or twice will reclaim her, or nothing.

Againſt frowardneſs.

If your Hawk through pride of greaſe or otherwiſe, be froward and coy, you ſhall not when ſhe kils, reward her as you were wont, but conveying ſome other cold meat cunningly under her, let her take her pleaſure thereon; and ever with the meat give her ſome feathers which may ſcowre her, and make her to caſt, for this will recover her ſtomack, and make her more carefull and diligent.

To make a hawk look inward.

If your Hawk be of a wild and ſtirring nature, and will not look inward towards the man with her head, but rake and gaſe after every check, neither reſpecting whooping or gibbeeing, in this caſe you muſt followv her and lure her back, and as ſoon as ſhe turneth in her head, ſhevv her the lure, to vvhich if ſhe ſtoop, then preſently revvard her, and thus do ſo oft as ſhe rangeth, till ſhe be brought unto that Love to your voice and affection to the Lure, that ſhe vvill forget her other extravagant thoughts.

When your Havvk is brought to flie to an extraordinary high pitch, to maintain and keep her in the ſame manner of flying ſtill, you ſhall not flie her above one flight in a day at the moſt;

for nothing bringeth her down more then over wearineſſe: Alſo you ſhall not then keep too extream a ſtraight hand upon her, for the too much greedineſſe of the Quarry makes her ſlacke her flying. Alſo, you ſhall not flie her upon Rundles, or ſmall brooks, but upon plaſhes and broad Rivers; you ſhall not ſuffer her to flie too long, but after two or three ſtoopings, and a croſſing, although ſhe miſſe it, take her down with the Lure or train, and reward her, for this encouragement will maintain her in her goodneſſe.

To bring hawks upward.

If your hawke be high flying, yet ſloathful to go to her Gatte, or elſe now and then ſtooping before there be cauſe, and ſo loſing her way, which many times happeneth when either the hawk is kept too ſharp, or flown out of her due time; any of which faults when you perceive, you ſhall then upon the doing thereof give her a dead Quarry, and then hood her up without reward, and an hour or two after, call her to the Lure, and feed her: and thus do as oft as ſhe offendeth: yet for the more ſure prevention thereof, I would have every Faulconer to try the naturall diſpoſition of his hawk, and find whether ſhe flyeth better on a ſtreight hand, or an open, and whether early or late, and ſo forth, and according to her own nature, ever to keep her.

Faults in ſhort winged hawks, firſt of turning tail.

Short winged Hawks, as *Goſhawks* and *Sparrow-hawks*, will many times neither kill their Game, nor flie their Game to mark; but will give it over after a little flying, and (as Faulconers term it) turn tail to it, which when you ſee, you ſhall incourage your dogs to hunt and caſt before your hawk a train Partridge, as it were the wild one, and make her ſeize it, and feed well upon it, to encourage her the better; and thus do twice or thrice, which if you ſee it prevail not, then eſteem her not, but make her away, for ſhe will hardly ever be reclaimed.

If a hawk will not flie at all.

Hawks that have never been acquainted with prey, will many times not flie at all; but taking a tree, will ſit and look after the game, which fault to amend, you ſhall ever feed her upon quick Birds, and make her foot them, and then going into the field, which is champane and plain, after you have rid up and down a pretty ſpace with the hawk unhooded, you ſhall cauſe one of your company to caſt out a field Partride before your hawk. Then

let

let her flie at it, and ſo ſoon as ſhe hath footed it, let her feed thereon at her pleaſure, and do thus three or four times, till ſhe be well in blood, and you ſhall find her valiant quickly.

If your hawk be ſo fond of the man, that ſhe will not flie from him, but after a ſtroke or two, return to him again; you muſt then but ſeldom be familiar with her, and let her rather feed her ſelfe then be fed by you, and as oft as ſhe commeth ſo unproperly unto you, you ſhall give her no reward; but when ſhe forſaketh you, and killeth the game, then you ſhall well reward her, and then make her both familiar with men, dogs, and horſes; for to take joy or diſlike to any of them, is a miſchief a great deal worſe then the former. Too much fondneſſe of the man.

To ſpeak of the mewing of long winged hawks, you ſhall underſtand that ſhe may be ſet down, that is, put into the mew about the middle of *April*, at which time if you find they have any lice, you ſhall pepper them, and put them into the Mew, which if it be a low place upon the ground free from noiſe, vermine, or any evill air, then it is called mewing at the ſtone or ſtock, but if you mew in any high room with open windowes towards the *North*, or *North-eaſt*, then it is called mewing at large: If you mew at the ſtock, you ſhall have a broad Table in the midſt of the room, on which you muſt place ſand, gravel, ſtone, ſods, and tubs for water, and in the midſt of theſe a free-ſtone or block of two foot high, to which you ſhall faſten your hawk with a turvell of iron, ſo that at no time her leaſe may be intangled; this manner of mewing may be in the Faulconers own bed-chamber, or in any other ſafe room at his pleaſure; the beſt meat in the mew, is any quick birds or foul, dogs fleſh, and ſuch like: If you mew your hawk at large, you ſhall put her looſe into the mew, having ſundry pearches therein, ſome high, ſome low for her uſe to ſit on; and in this mew alſo you ſhall have ſand, ſtones, gravel, green ſods, and water, all which you ſhall renew as oft as need do require, and in the midſt of them a block or two, whereon to tie her meat, which meat ſhall be the ſame formerly ſpoke of, and given at certain and due times, without fail or alteration. Mewing of long winged hawks. Mewing at the ſtone. Mewing at large.

If you intend to mew a ſhort winged hawk, as the Goſhawk, or ſuch like, you ſhall in *March* after you have ſcowred her, and made

made her clean from lice, cut off her the leſſe, and throw her into Mew looſe, either in a high room or a low room at your pleaſure; let her perches be lined with canvaſſe, or with woollen liſts for the ſafety of her feet, let her have ſtore of water for bathing, and oft renewed, and ſtore of meat, as live Pigeons, warm Mutton, warm Goat, or Dogs-fleſh, any of which will make her mew quickly.

When to draw hawks.

Hawks for the field would be drawn from the mew in *June*, and made ready to flie in *Auguſt*, at which time Corn is cut, and Game is ſtrong: and hawkes for the River would be drawn in *Auguſt*, that they may be ready to flie in *September*.

Diſeaſes in hawks.

Hawkes have divers infirmities and diſeaſes, as Feavers, Palſey, Impoſtumes, ſore eyes, and Nares, Megrims, Pantas, caſting her Gorge, foulneſſe of Gorge, Wormes, Fillanders ill Liver, or Gout, Pinne in the foot, breaking the pounce, Bones out of joint, Bones broken, Bruiſes, Lice, Colds, Frounce, Fiſtulaes, Stone, much gaping, more foundring, privy evill, taint in the Feathers, loſs of appetite, broken wind, blow on the Wing, wounds, ſwelling, eating their own feet, taking up of veins in Hawks, Cramp, and a world of others: all which foraſmuch as I have ſhewed the Medicines, and cures thereof in the former Treatiſe called *Cheap and Good*, I will refer you unto the ſame, and not doubt but it will give you ſatisfaction.

CHAP. VI.

Of Courſing with Grey-hounds, and the Excellencies of that ſport.

Of courſing with Grey-hounds.

NOw if the mind of our Husbandman be not ſo generally taken with the delight and pleaſure of this recreation of Hawking, but that he preferreth before it the delight of Courſing with Grey-hounds, which is a very noble and worthy paſtime, he ſhall in it obſerve theſe four things, the Breed of Grey-hounds, their ſhape, their diet, and the Lawes belonging to the ſame.

Breeding of Greyhounds.

Touching the breed of Grey hounds, you are principally to reſpect the Countries in which they are bred, and nouriſhed

riſhed, as that it be a champane plain, and without covert, where a hare may ſtand forth, and indure a courſe of two miles, or more, as it ſhall happen (for the courſing of a hare is that which I purpoſe moſt to entreat of) becauſe in a cloſe country full of covert, where a hare cannot run above a quarter of a mile, or leſſe, both the pleaſure of the recreation is taken away, and the Greyhound by an inſufficient exerciſe is made unapt, and unfit for that for which he was created.

Beſt places for breed.

Now of champane countries, they are of three kinds, as the low vales, as are the vales of *Belvoire*, the vale of white *Horſe*, the vaile of *Eaſham*, and ſuch like; the high downs and heaths, as about *Salisb ry*, *Ciſſeter*, *Lincoln*, and many ſuch like places; and the middle between both, as the Country of *Northampton* and *Leiceſter*, and other like them: All which are very excellent places for the breeding and training up of the beſt Greyhounds; yet of the three your vallies or middle ſoyles, which for the moſt part are arable grounds, are much better to breed and train on, then your downs and heaths, becauſe they are much more labourſome, rough, heavy, and in the winter ſeaſon full of much trouble and falſe root-hold, inſomuch, that a dog which is able to run ſtrongly, ſwiftly, and ſurely there, muſt neceſſarily do it ten times better when he comes to the ſmooth plain, and carpet-like down: where on the contrary, the dogge which is trained upon thoſe even downs, though he be right famous and excellent, when he comes to run in the deep well plowed field, is to ſeek where to beſtow his feet, and can neither ſhew ſpeed, cunning, nor indurance.

The beſt Greyhounds.

Nimbleneſs in Greyhounds.

Now the Gentlemen which dwell on the downs and plain grounds, to maintain the reputation of their dogs, affirm them to be much more nimble and cunning in turning, then the vale dogs be, becauſe the fairneſſe of earth giveth them ſo much advantage over the hare, that having her even (as it were) in a manner under their feet, ſhe is put more to her ſhifts, and ſtrives with greater art of ſleights to deceive, and get advantage of the Greyhound: And it is true, for by reaſon of the advantage of their hils, which are great and ſteep, though ſmooth and plain, I have ſeen a vale-dog ſo much deceived, that upon a turn, he hath loſt more ground then hath been recoverable in the whole

course after: but there is no want of goodneſſe, but a little skill, which a months courſing will bring a dog ſo ſufficiently unto, that he will not need any other reformation, then the knowledge of his errour, by his loſs of labour. So that I conclude the good dog upon the deeps, will ever beat the good dogs on the plain.

Difference between Doggs and Bitches.

It is an old received opinion amongſt many men of the Leaſh, that the Grey hound bitch, will ever beat the Grey-hound dog, by reaſon of her more nimbleneſſe, quickneſſe and agility: And it is ſometimes ſeen, that a perfect good bitch indeed, hath much advantage of an ordinary dog: but if the good dog meet with the good bitch, there is then no compariſon but the dog will be her Maſter; in as much as he exceedeth her both in length and ſtrength, the two main helps in courſing; for her nimbleneſſe is then no help: ſith a good dog in the turn, will loſe as little ground, as any bitch whatſoever.

Dogs and Bitches for breed.

Yet thus much I would perſwade all Gentlemen of the Leaſh to be very careful in their breeding, to breed upon the beſt bitches they can provide; for it is found in experience, that the beſt dog upon an indifferent bitch, will not get ſo good a whelp, as an indifferent dog upon the beſt bitch: And amongſt theſe obſervations in breeding Grey-hounds, you ſhall obſerve to have your dogs and bitches of equall and indifferent ages, as about three or four years old at the moſt; but in caſe of need, your bitch will endure a great deal longer then your dog, and to breed with a young dog, or an old bitch, may bring forth an excellent whelp.

The ſhapes of Greyhounds.

Touching the ſhapes of Greyhounds (from whence you ſhall take the beſt collections for their goodneſſes) they are certain and moſt infallible: Therefore touching Greyhounds, when they are puppies or young whelps, thoſe which are moſt raw-bon'd, lean, looſe made, ſickle or crooked hought, and generally unknit in every member, are ever likely to make the beſt dogs, and moſt ſhapely: but ſuch as in the firſt three or four months are round, and cloſe truſt, fat, ſtreight, and as it were full ſum'd and knit in every member, never prove good, ſwift, or comely.

Now after your dog comes to full growth, as at a year and a halfe, or two years old, he would then have a fine long lean head.

head, with a ſharp noſe, ruſh grown from the Eye downward: A full clear eye with long Eyelids, a ſharp ear, ſhort and cloſe falling, a long neck a little bending, with a looſe hanging wezand, a broad breaſt, ſtrait forelegs, ſide hollow, ribs ſtraight, a ſquare and flat back, ſhort and ſtrong fillets, a broad ſpace between the Hips, a ſtrong ſtearn or tayle, and a round foot, and good large clefts. Now for the better help of your memory I will give you an old rime, left by your fore-Fathers, from which you ſhall underſtand the true ſhapes of a perfect Greyhound, and this it is.

If you will have a good like,
Of which there are few like,
He muſt be headed like a ſnake,
Neck like a Drake,
Backt like a beam,
Sided like a bream,
Tayled like a Rat,
And footed like a Cat.

Theſe being the principall members of a good Greyhound, if they reſemble the proportions of the things above named, the dog cannot chuſe but be moſt perfect.

When you have thus a perfect and well ſhap'd Greyhound, your next rule is to apply your ſelfe to the dyeting and ordering of him, for the pleaſure to which you keep him; that bringing him to the uttermoſt height or ſtrength of wind, you may know the uttermoſt goodneſſe that is within him, which, diſorderly and foul keeping will conceale, and you loſe a Jewell for want of knowledge of the value. Dyeting of Greyhounds to courſe.

Dyeting then of Greyhounds conſiſteth in four eſpecial things, to wit, food, exerciſe, airing, and kennelling; the firſt nouriſhing the body, the ſecond the limbs, the third the wind, and the laſt the ſpirits. Of what dieting conſiſteth.

To ſpeak then of food, it is two-fold, either generall, or particular; generall as for a continuall upholding and maintaining of a dog in good ſtate of body, being in good plight and liking; or particular, when a dog is either poore, ſick, Of food.

or prepared for wager, ſtandeth in need of particular foods of advantage.

Of generall food.

The beſt generall food for the ordinary upholding of a dog in a good ſtate is, chippings, cruſts of bread, ſoft tender bones or griſſels of Veale, Lamb, or ſuch like, firſt ſcalded in beefe-broth not very ſalt, or other broath, in which hath been boiled, Mutton, Veal, or Veniſon, or any kind of Pullen, or for want thereof, other clean ſcalding water. After your chippings or bread is ſcalded, you ſhall let it ſtand and coole, then when your feeding-hour commeth, you ſhall take as much good milk, flotten milk, or butter milk (but the beſt is moſt wholeſome) as will fully or more then whiten the ſame: for it is to be intended that your water muſt be all drunk up into your bread, and your milk muſt only make it ſwim, and with this feed your dog morning and evening after you come from walking him, and give him a good and ſufficient meal thereof, for this will only maintain and uphold him in good ſtate of body, being ſtrong and luſty in fleſh before.

Of particular food.

For particular food, which is when a dogge is poore, ſick, or to be prepared for wager, they be theſe: Firſt, if he be poor in fleſh, ſickly or weak, the beſt food you can raiſe him up withall, is to take ſheeps heads, wool and all, clean waſht, and break them all to pieces; then put them in a Cauldron or Kettle, and after the water hath riſen, and is clean ſcum'd put unto it good ſtore of Oatmeal and ſweet pot-hearbs ſmall chopt together, and ſo boil it till the fleſh be tender; then with this meat and the pottage feed your Grey-hound morning and evening, and it will ſoon put him into great luſt and ſtrength: but if you will prepare him for match and wager, then you ſhall make him this diet-bread: take a peck of the fineſt and dryeſt Oatmeal, and two pecks of good wheat; and having ground them together, boult the meal through a fine boulting cloath, and then ſcattering amongſt it a pretty quantiy of Any-ſeeds and Licoras well beaten together, knead it up with the whites of egs, new Ale and barm mixt together, and ſo bake it in pretty round loaves reaſonable hard: with this bread either ſcalded, as was before ſhewed in your chippings, or put into the pottage with ſheeps heads warm, feed your dog morning and evening, to with half an hour after Sun-riſe, and half an hour before Sun-

Food for a match.

Hours of feeding.

Sun-ſet, when you come from walking or airing him, and it will bring him to exceeding great ſtrength of body, and pureneſſe of wind.

For the exerciſe of your Greyhound, it conſiſteth likewiſe in two things, courſing and airing; and they be every way as neceſſary as is food, becauſe it only bringeth ability to his limbs, and perfitneſſe to his wind: to ſpeak then of courſing, you ſhall not faile to courſe him at leaſt twice a week, if your courſes be ſtrong and long: but thrice a week if they be but reaſonable, as a mile, or a mile and a half at moſt; and ſometimes if your courſes be ſhort, under a mile. In courſing you ſhall obſerve two things, blood and labour; blood, which is a heartning and animating of your dog to delight in the pleaſure, when he finds the reward of his pains taking; for if a dog courſe continually, and never kill the hare, the ſport will grow irkſome unto him, and therefore now and then give him ſuch advantage, that he may kill the hare: then labour, which is contrary to killing; for in it you muſt give the hare all indifferent advantage both by Law and otherwiſe, whereby ſhe may ſtand long before the dog, and make him ſhew his uttermoſt ſtrength before he be able to reach her. Of exerciſe by courſing.

After your dog hath courſed, if he kill, you ſhall by no means ſuffer him to break the hare; but having taken her from him, firſt cleanſe his mouth and chaps from the wool of the hare, and then give him to eat, the Liver, Lights and heart, and ſo take him up in your leace, lead him home, and there firſt waſh his feet in a little butter and beer, and ſo put him up in the kennell, and halfe an hour after feed him: for upon his courſing dayes, you muſt by no means give him any meat more then a white-bread toaſt and butter, or a toaſt and oyle, which muſt be given before his morning-ayring, and ſo kennelled till he go to his courſe. Of ordering dogs.

Touching ayring or walking of Grey hounds, which is a great nouriſher and encreaſer of wind, it muſt duly be done every morning before Sun-riſe, and every evening before or after Sun-ſet, in this manner: as ſoon as you have opened your kennel, and rubb'd your dog over with a clean hair cloath, you ſhall let him play a little about you, before the kennel door, then Airing after courſing.

take him up in your leaſh and walk him forth in the field, where for the moſt part are not ſheep or other ſmall Cattell, which they may out of wantonneſſe indanger, and there let him looſe, and give him leave to play and ſcope about you, ſo that he may skummer, piſſe, and empty his body; which when he hath done ſufficiently, you ſhall then take him up in the leaſh again, and ſo walk him home and kennell him, this you ſhall doe after the ſame manner in the evening; and alſo if your dog be ſtrong and luſty at night after ſupper, and then bringing him home bring him to the fire, and there let him ſtretch and beak himſelfe, and with your hand grope and cleanſe him from ticks, and other filth, which done, lead him to the kennel, and ſhut him up for all night.

Of kennelling the Greyhound.

Now for the kennelling of Greyhounds, it is a right neceſſary action, and muſt be performed with all diligence, for it breeds in dogs, luſt, ſpirit and nimbleneſſe, prevents divers miſchances, and keeps the powers from ſpending, till time of neceſſity: and therefore you ſhall by no means ſuffer your dog to be out of the kennel, but in the hours of feeding, walking courſing or when you have other neceſſary buſineſſes to do about him.

CHAP. VII.

The Lawes of the Leaſh or courſing, as they were commanded, allowed, and ſubſcribed by Thomas *late Duke of Norfolk, in the Raign of Queen* Elizabeth.

NOw laſtly touching the Lawes of the Leaſh, or courſing, though they be uncertainly received, and alter with mens various opinions, yet theſe under written were held for authentical once, and invented, received and ſubſcribed unto by many noble and worthy Perſonages, ſuting fully with the Reaſons and grounds of the paſtime.

Firſt therefore it was ordered, that he which was choſen Fewterer, or letter-looſe of the Greyhounds, ſhould receive the Greyhounds match to run together into his Leaſh, as ſoon as he came into the field, and to follow next to the Hare-finder till he came unto the Forme: and no horſemen nor footman, on

on paine of diſgrace, to go before them, or on either ſide, but directly behind, the ſpace of forty yeards, or there about.

Item, That not above one brace of Greyhounds do courſe a hare at one inſtant.

Item, That the hare-finder ſhould give the hare three ſo-hows before he put her from her Leat, to make the Greyhounds gaze and attend her riſing.

Item, That the Fewterer ſhall give the hare twelve ſcore Law, ere he looſe the Greyhounds, except it be in danger of loſing ſight.

Item, That dog that giveth the firſt turn, if after the turn be given, there be neither coat, ſlip, nor wrench extraordinary, then he which gave the firſt turn ſhall be held to win the wager.

Item, If one dog give the firſt turn, and the other bear the hare, then he which bore the hare ſhall win.

Item, If one dog give both the firſt turn and laſt turn, and no other advantage between them, that odd turne ſhall win the wager.

Item, That a coat ſhall be more then two turns, and a go-by, or the bearing of the hare, equal with two turns.

Item, If neither dog turn the hare, then he which leadeth laſt, at the covert, ſhall be held to win the wager.

Item, If one dog turn the hare, ſerve himſelfe, and turn her again, thoſe two turns ſhall be as much as a coat.

Item, If all the courſe be equall, then he only which bears the hare ſhall win; and if ſhe be not born, then the courſe muſt be adjudged dead.

Item, if he which comes firſt into the death of the hare, takes her up and ſaves her from breaking, cheriſheth the dogs, and cleanſeth their mouths from the wool, or other filth of the Hare, for ſuch courteſie done, he ſhall in courteſie challenge the hare, but not doing it, he ſhall have no right, priviledge or title therein.

Item, If any dog ſhall take a fall in the courſe, and yet perform his part, he ſhall challenge advantage of a turn more then he giveth.

Item,

Item, If one dog turn the Hare, ſerve himſelfe, and give divers coats, yet in the end ſtand ſtill in the field, the other dog without turn giving, running home to the covert, that dog which ſtood ſtill in the field, ſhall be then adjudged to loſe the wager.

Item, If any man ſhall ride over a dog, and overthrow him in his courſe (though the dog were the worſe dog in opinion) yet the party for the offence, ſhall either receive the diſgrace of the field, or pay the wager; for between the parties, it ſhall be adjudged no courſe.

Item, Thoſe which are choſen Judges of the Leaſh, ſhall give their judgements preſently before they depart from the field, or elſe he, in whoſe default it lyeth, ſhall pay the wager, by a generall voice and ſentence.

And thus much for the Lawes of Courſing, and thoſe particularities which do depend thereupon: All which, I ſubmit unto the correction and amendment of thoſe Worthy, and well-knowing Gentlemen, who having the Office of the Leaſh conferred upon them, have both Authority and Power to make Lawes therein, according unto the Cuſtomes of Countries, and the Rule of Reaſon.

The end of Hunting.

Of

Of Particular Recreations.

CHAP. VIII.

Of Divers other particular Recreations.

Here be many other particular Recreations neceſſary for the knowledge and practice of our Husbandman, as firſt, ſhooting in the Long-bow, which is both healthfull for the Body, and neceſſary for the Common-wealth: the firſt, extending the Limbs and making them plyant: the other, enabling ſtrength fit to preſerve and defend his Country. And firſt, for ſhooting in the Long-bow, a man muſt obſerve theſe few Rules, firſt that he have a good Eye to behold and diſcern his mark, a knowing judgment to underſtand the diſtance of ground, to take the true advantage of a ſide wind, and to know in what compaſs his Arrow muſt flye, and a quick dexterity to give his ſhaft a ſtrong, ſharp, and ſuddain looſe; he muſt in the action it ſelf ſtand fair, comely, and upright with his body, his Left foot a convenient ſtride before his Right, both his hammes ſtiff, his left arme holding his Bow in the midſt ſtretcht ſtreight out, and his Right arm with his three firſt fingers and his thumb drawing the ſtring to his right ear, the notch of his arrow reſting between his fore-finger, and long finger of his right hand, Of ſhooting in the Long-bow.

and the ſteal of his Arrow below the feathers upon the middle knuckle of his fore-finger on his left hand, he ſhall draw his Arrow up cloſe unto the head and deliver it on the inſtant without hanging on the ſtring; the beſt Bow is either Spaniſh or Engliſh Yew, and the worſt of Witchen or Elme; the beſt ſhaft is of Burch, Sugar-cheſt, or Brazel; and the beſt feathers gray or white.

The Markes to ſhoot at are three, Butts, Pricks, or Rovers: the Butt is a levell Marke, and therefore would have a ſtrong Arrow with a very broad Feather: The Prick is a Mark of ſome compaſſe, yet moſt certain in the diſtance, therefore would have nimble ſtrong Arrows with a middle feather, all of one weight and flying: the Rover is a Mark uncertain, ſometimes long ſometimes ſhort, and therefore muſt have arrows lighter or heavier, according unto the diſtance of place.

Of Shooting in Croſſe-bowes.

If infirmity in the arme, or back, take from a man the uſe of the Long-bow, he may then with a Croſs-bow made for gaſel carried upon a ſtring, and the neather end placed in a reſt, with arrowes made ſtrong, heavy, and ſuitable to the ſtrength of the Bow, ſhoot at all the former Marks, and reap the ſame pleaſure he formerly did with his long bow.

Of Bowling

There is another Recreation, which howſoever unlawfull in the abuſe thereof, yet exerciſed with moderation, is even of Phyſitians themſelves held exceeding wholſome, and hath been preſcribed for a Recreation to great Perſons, and that is bowling, in which a man ſhall find great Art in chooſing out his Ground, and preventing the Winding Hanging, and many turning advantages of the ſame, whether it be in open wide places, or in cloſe Allies: And this ſport the chooſing of the bowl is the greateſt cunning: your flat bowls being the beſt for cloſe Allies: your round byaſſed bowls for open grounds of advantage, and your round bowles like a ball, for green ſwarths that are plain and levell.

Not inferiour to theſe ſports, either for health or action, are the Teniſe, or Baloon; the firſt being a paſtime in cloſe or open Courts, ſtriking a little round ball to and fro, either with the palmes of the hand, or with Racket. The other a ſtrong and moving ſport; in the open field, with a great ball of double Leather

fil'd

fil'd with wind, and ſo driven to and fro with the ſtrength of a mans Arm, arm'd in a bracer of wood; either of which actions, muſt be learnt by the Eye and practice, not by the Ear or Reading.

Of Angling, &c.

CHAP. IX.

The whole art of Angling; as it was written in a ſmall Treatiſe in Rime, and now for the better underſtanding of the Reader put into Proſe, and adorned and inlarged. And firſt of Angling, the vertue, uſe, and Antiquity.

SInce Pleaſure is a Rapture, or power in this laſt Age, ſtoln into the hearts of men, and there lodged up with ſuch a careful guard & attendance, that nothing is more Supreame, or ruleth with greater ſtrength in their affections; and ſince all are now become the Sons of Pleaſure, and every good is meaſured by the delight it produceth: what worke unto men can be more thankfull then a diſcourſe of that pleaſure which is moſt comly, moſt honeſt, and giveth the moſt liberty to Divine Meditation? and that without all queſtion is the Art of Angling, which having ever been moſt hurtleſſely neceſſary, hath been the ſport, or Recreation of God's Saints, of moſt holy Fathers, and of many worthy and Reverend Divines, both dead, and at this time breathing.

The uſe of Angling.

For the uſe thereof (in its own true and unabuſed nature) car-

rieth in it neither covetousnesse, deceit, nor anger, the three main spirits which ever (in some ill measure) rule in all other pastimes: neither are alone predominant without the attendance of their several handmaids, as Theft, Blasphemy, or Blood shed: for in Dice-play, Cards, Bowls, or any other sport where mony is the goal to which mens minds are directed, what can mans avarice there be accounted other then a familiar Robbery, each seeking by deceit to couzen and spoyl others of that blisse of meanes which God hath bestowed to support them and their families. And as in every contention there must be a better-hood or super-excelling; so in this, when the weaker deceipt is deprived his expectation, how doth it then fall into Curses, Oathes, and furies, such as would make Vertue tremble with the imaginations!

But in this Art of Angling there is no such evill, no such sinful violence, for the greatest things it covereth, is for much labour a little Fish, hardly so much as will suffice Nature in a reasonable stomack: for the Angler must intice, not command his reward; and, that which is worthy millions to his contentment, another may buy for a groat in the Market. His deceipt worketh not upon men, but upon those creatures whom it is lawfull to beguile for our honest Recreations or needfull use; and for all rage and fury it must be so great a stranger to this civill pastime, that if it come but within view or speculation thereof, it is no more to be esteemed a pleasure: For every proper good thereof in the very instant faileth, shewing unto all men that will undergo any delight therein, that it was first invented, taught, and shall for ever be maintained by Patience onely. And yet I may not say, onely Patience; for her other three Sisters have likewise a commanding in this exercise, for Justice directeth and appoynteth out those places where men may with liberty use their sport, and neither do injury to their Neighbours, nor incur the censure of incivility. Temperance layeth down the measure of the action and moderateth desire in such good proportion, that no Excesse is found in the over-flow of their affections. Lastly, Fortitude inableth the mind to undergo the travail and exchange of Weathers, with a healthfull ease, and not to despair with a little expence of time, but to preserve with a constant imagination

nation in the end to obtain both pleasure and satisfaction.

Now for the Antiquity thereof (for all pleasures, like Gentry, are held to be most excellent, which is most antient) it is by some Writers said to be found out by *Deucaleon*, and *Pyrrha* his Wife, after the General flood: others write, it was the invention of *Saturn*, after the peace concluded betwixt him and his brother *Titan*; and others, that it came from *Belus* the Sonne of *Nimrod*, who first invented all holy and vertuous Recreations; and all these though they savour of fiction, yet they differ not from truth, for it is most certain, that both *Deucalion*, *Saturn*, and *Belus*, are taken for figures of *Noah* and his Family, and the Invention of the Art of Angling, is truly said to come from the Sonns of *Seth*, of which *Noah* was most Principal. Thus you see it is good, as having no coherence with evill: worthy of use, in as much as it is mixt with a delightfull profit: and most antient, as being the Recreation of the first Patriarks; wherefore now I will proceed to the Art it self, and the means to attain it. The Antiquity of Angling.

CHAP. X.

Of the angle-Rod, Lines, Corks, and other tools for Angling.

IN as much as the first Ground Work or Substance of this Art of Angling consisteth in the implements belonging and appertaining thereunto, and that except a man be possest of them which are most exact, nimble, or necessary for the same, his labour is vain, and to little or no purpose imployed, and for as much as the Angle Rod is the greatest, principallest, and sole Director of all other Tools belonging thereunto, I think it not amiss to begin with the choyce and order thereof, according to the opinions of the best noted Anglers, which either have been in times past, or are at this day living.

For the choyce then of your Angle-Rod, you shall understand that some Anglers are of opinion, that the best should be composed of two pieces, a main body, and a small plyant top. The Main body would be of a fine grown ground-Witchin, or a ground Elme, of at least nine or tenne foot in length, streight, smooth, without knots, and not much diffe-

fering, at either end in one ſubſtance or thickneſſe. It would be gathered at the fall of the leaf, near or about *All-hollontide*, and laid up in ſome dry place, where it may lye ſtraight, and of it ſelf ſeaſon: For to beak them in the fire (as many do) when they are green, is not ſo good, but after they be well dryed and ſeaſoned of themſelves, then to beak them in the fire, and ſet them ſo ſtreight and even that an arrow cannot ſurpaſſe them, is excellent; then you may take off the upper rind, and what with the ſmoak, and their own age, their colour will be ſo dark, that they will give no reflect into the Water, (which is a principal obſervation). Your Rod being made thus ſtreight and ſeaſoned, you ſhall at the upper end thereof, with an augur, or a hot Iron (but a hot Iron, is the better) burn a hole about three inches deep, and, of a fingers wideneſſe: then on the out-ſide of the Rod, from the top of the hole unto the bottome, you ſhall wrap it about either with ſtrong double twiſted thred well Waxed or pitcht, or with Shooe-makers thread many-times doubled and well waxed with Shooe makers Waxe, and the laſt end faſtned under the laſt folds, ſo cloſe and ſo ſure, that it may by no means looſe; for this will keep the Rod from cleaving, or breaking in that ſame place where the hollowneſſe was made.

Of the top of the Angle rod.

The ſtock being thus made you ſhall into the hole fixe the Top, which would be a very ſmall ground Hazel, growing from the earth upward, very ſmooth and ſtreight, which would be cut at the latter end of the year and lye in ſeaſon all the Winter, the upper Rinde being by no meanes taken off, neither the Rod put into the fire at all, but only ſeaſoned in a good dry place, where it may lye ſtreight, and have both the Wind and ſome Ayre of the Fire to come unto it. This Top muſt bee plyant and bending, yet of ſuch a ſufficient ſtrength, that it will not break with any reaſonable jerk, but as it is any way bowed, ſo to return again to the former ſtraightneſſe. This top wand would be of a yard and a halfe, or an Ell at leaſt in length, and at the ſmalleſt end thereof would be faſtned with a warp of hair, a ſtrong loop of haire, about an inch long, to which you may at pleaſure faſten your

fiſhing

fiſhing line; and the bigger end of the top muſt be thruſt into the ſocket of the ſtock, and made ſo faſt that it may not looſen nor ſhake out with any ſhaking or other reaſonable violence. And albeit the Witchin or Ground Elme are accounted the beſt to frame theſe main ſtocks of, yet I have ſeen very good ſtocks made both of Sallow, Beech, or Poplar: for the lighter your Rod is (ſo it be ſtrong) it is ſo much the better, and more for the eaſe of him that uſeth it.

The Angle Rod of one piece.

There be other approved good Anglers which allow onely the Rodde which is compoſed all of one entire peece, and think them ſtronger, nimbler, and leſſe caſual: and theſe Rods they would have choſen of an excellent ſtreight and well grown Ground-Hazel, being from the bottome to the top finely Ruſh-grown, the upper end thereof being ſmall plyant and bending. This Rod ſhould be gathered at the fall of the leafe, when the leaves are ſome fallen and ſome ſticking: as ſoon as you have cut them up, you ſhall cut away the leaves and ſmall ſprigs, yet not ſo near that you hurt the bark (for that by no meanes muſt be ſtir'd, as well for the ſtrength of the Rodde, as for the colour, which being dark will not ſo ſoon catch the eye of the Fiſh and offend them.) Then bringing your Rodds home, you ſhall lay them upon a level floor, and preſſing them down with good weights, to keep them from warping, let them lye and ſeaſon all the Winter: Then in the Spring time take them up for your purpoſe, which is onely to make the knots ſmooth, and to fix your loop of hair unto the upper end. Now of theſe Rods, the longeſt is the beſt, ſo it be ſtreight and well grown; for moſt commonly they are ſo ſhort that they will ſerve to fiſh with but in little narrow Brooks, or elſe in a Boat, in great waters.

The Anglers Rod of many pieces.

There be other Anglers, and many of the beſt and approvedſt judgment, which allow the Angle-Rodde of many pieces: as thoſe which are made of Cane: each peece exceeding another on degree, in ſuch even proportion that being fixed and thruſt one within another, they will ſhew as one even and moſt ſtreight Ruſh-grown body, without any crookedneſs or other outward evil favouredneſſe. Theſe pieces would not bee a-

bove

bove four foot in length a piece, and three ſuch pieces, which make twelve foot, are ſufficient for the ſtock of the Rodde, beſides the top. Now for thoſe ends which are the ſockets, into which you fix the other Canes, you ſhall hoop them about with fine plates of Braſs, an inch and an half broad, well ſodered, and ſmoothly filed, which will keep the Cane from cleaving: and for the top of this Rodde, the round Whalebone is thought the beſt; and ſurely in my conceit ſo it is both for this or any other Rodde whatſoever; for it is tough, ſtrong, and moſt plyant. Theſe Rodds moſt commonly are made to have the ſmall Canes thruſt down into the wide Canes, ſo that a man may walk with them as with a ſtaff, as when he pleaſeth to draw them forth, and uſe them as occaſion ſhall be offered. The onely exception which is taken at theſe kind of Rodds, is the bright colour of the Cane, which reflecting into the water, oft times ſcareth the Fiſh, and maketh them affraid to bite: But if you Fiſh in deep and thick waters, there is no ſuch matter, for the ſhadow of the Rodde is not diſcerned through the Sunne, only in ſhallow and clear Brooks it is a little hindrance; and therefore he which is a Maſter in this Art, will Umber and darken the Rodde, by rubbing it over a gentle fire with a little Capons greaſe, and brown of Spain, mixt together.

Of the Lines. Now for your Lines, you ſhall underſtand that they are to be made of the ſtrongeſt, longeſt, and beſt grown Horſe-haire that can be got, not that which groweth on his Main, nor upon the upper part or ſetting on of his tayle, but that which groweth from the middle and in moſt part of his dock, and ſo extendeth it ſelfe down to the ground, being the biggeſt and ſtrongeſt hairs about the Horſe: neither are theſe hairs to be gathered from poor, lean and diſeaſed Jades of little price or value, but from the fatteſt, ſounded, and proudeſt Horſe you can find, for the beſt Horſe hath ever the beſt haire; neither would your hairs be gathered from Nagges, Mares, or Geldings, but from ſton'd Horſes onely, of which the black haire is the worſt, the white or gray beſt, and other colours indifferent. Thoſe lines which you make for ſmall fiſh, as Gudgeon, Whiting, or Menow, would be compoſed of three hairs; thoſe

thoſe which you make for Pearch or Trout, would be of five hairs, and thoſe for the Chub or Barbel, would be of ſeaven: to thoſe of three hairs, you ſhall add one thread of ſilk, to thoſe of five, two threads of ſilk, and to thoſe of ſeven, three threads of ſilk. You ſhall twiſt your hairs neither too hard nor too ſlack, but even ſo as they may twind and couch cloſe one within another, and no more, without either ſnarling or gaping one from another; the end you ſhall faſten together with a Fiſhers knot, which is your ordinary faſt knots, foulded four times about, both under and above, for this will not looſe in the water, but being drawn cloſe together, will continue, when all other knots will fail; for a hair being ſmoth and ſtiffe, will yield and goe back, if it be not artificially drawn together. Your ordinary line would be between three and four fadom in length, yet foraſmuch as there are diverſities in the length of rods, in the depth of waters, and in the places of ſtanding to Angle in, it ſhall be good to have lines of divers lengths, and to take thoſe which ſhall be fitteſt for your purpoſe.

The colouring of Lines.

Theſe lines, though the naturall hairs being white or grey, be not much offenſive, yet it ſhall not be amiſſe to colour them according to the ſeaſons of the year, for ſo they will leaſt ſcare the Fiſh, and ſooneſt intice them to bite with moſt greedineſſe, and of colours, the beſt is the water green, which you ſhall make after this manner. Take a pottle of Allom-water, and put thereunto a great handfull of Marigolds, and let them boil well, till a yellow ſcum riſe upon the water, then take halfe a pound of green Copperas, and as much verdigreaſe, beaten to fine powder, and put it with the hair into the water, and ſo let it boil again a pretty ſpace, and then ſet it by to cool for half a day, then take out your hair, and lay it where it may dry and you ſhall ſee it of a delicate green colour, which indeed is the beſt water green that may be. This colour is excellent to angle with in all clear waters where the line lies plain, and moſt diſcovered, and will continue from the beginning of the ſpring, to the beginning of winter. Now if you will have your lines of a yellow colour, you ſhall boyle your hair in Allom-water, mixt only with Marigolds, and a handfull of Turmerick: but, if you cannot get Turmerick, then you ſhall ſtamp ſo much of green Walnut-tree leaves, and mixe

it with the water, and ſteep your hair therein twenty and four hours at leaſt.

Lines of this colour are good to Angle with, in waters that are clear, yet full of weeds, ſedge, and ſuch like; for it is not unlike to the ſtalkes of theſe weeds, and it will well continue to Angle withall, the firſt part of the winter, as from before Michaelmas, till after Chriſtmas.

If you will have your Lines of a ruſſet colour, you ſhall take a part of Allom-water, and as much ſtrong Lye, then put thereto a handfull of ſoot, and as much brown of Spain, and after it hath boiled an hour or two, ſet it by to coole, and when it is cold, ſteep your hair therein a day and a night, and then hang it up to dry: theſe coloured lines are good to angle with in all deep waters, whether they be rivers or ſtanding pools, as ponds, and ſuch like, and are moſt in uſe from Chriſtmas till after Eaſter.

Now if you will have your lines of a brown or duskiſh colour, you ſhall take a pound of Umbes, and half ſo much ſoot, and ſeeth it in a pottle of Ale a good ſpace, then when it is cold, ſteep your hairs therein a day and a night, and then hang them up to dry, and the colour will be perfect; yet ever the darker you would have it, the more Umber put unto it: theſe lines are excellent to angle with in waters that are black, deep, and muddy, be they ether running or ſtanding waters, and will continue all ſeaſons of the year whatſoever, only in bright waters they are too black, and caſt too large a ſhallow. Laſtly, if you would have your lines of a tawny colour, (although in the water it ſheweth almoſt all one with the other darker colours) you ſhall take lime and water mix it together, and ſteep your hair therein half a day, and then take it forth and ſteep it double ſo long time in Tanners ouze, and then hang it up to dry, and the colour will be perfect: theſe lines are beſt to angle with in mooriſh and heathy waters, which are of a reddiſh colour, and will ſerve for that purpoſe all ſeaſons of the year: if with this colour or the green, you mix a ſilver thread, it will not be amiſſe: and with the other colours, a gold thread it is good alſo: and note, that at each end of your line, you make a loop, the one to faſten to the top of your Rod,

Rod, being the larger; and the other to faſten your hook-line unto, which would be ſomewhat leſſer.

After your lines be made, you ſhall make your corks in this manner: take of the beſt and thickeſt cork you can get, and with a fine Razor having pared it ſmooth on the outſide, cut it into the faſhion of a long Katherine Pear, big and round at the one end, and long and ſlender at the other, and according to the ſtrength of your line, ſo make your work bigger or leſſer, as for a line of three hairs, a cork of an inch and half in length, and as much in compaſſe in the thickeſt part, is big enough: and for a line of more hairs, a cork of more length and compaſſe will become it: and indeed to ſpeak truly, foraſmuch as it ſerveth but only for a direction to your eye, to know when the fiſh biteth, and when you ſhall ſtrike; the leſſer your Cork is, the better it is, and breedeth leſſe affright in the water, inſomuch, that many Anglers will fiſh without any cork, with a bare quill only, but that it is not ſo certain, nor giveth ſo ſure direction as the cork doth. After you have ſhaped your cork, you ſhall with a hot iron boar a hole long-wiſe, through the midſt thereof, and into that hole, thruſt a quill, and through the quill draw your line, and faſten them both together with a wedge of the hard end of the gooſe feather: and note that both your quil and your wedge be white, for that breedeth leaſt offence on the water; then place the ſmaller end of your cork down toward your hook, and the bigger end toward your rod that the ſmaller end ſinking down with the hook, the bigger may float aloft and bear the quill upward, which when at any time you ſee or perceive pull'd down into the water, then you may ſafely ſtrike: for without doubt it is an aſſured ſign that the fiſh hath bitten at the bait. Of the Cork.

Their be other Anglers which make their corks in the faſhion of a Nunne gig, ſmall at both ends, and big in the midſt, and it is not much to be diſliked, only it is a little ſooner apt to ſink, and you may thereby ſtrike before the fiſh have full bitten. Others ſhape their corks in the faſhion of a whirle, or of a little apple, round, flattiſh of both ſides, and this cork is beſt to Angle for the greateſt Fiſhes, becauſe it being not ſo apt to

ſink, will float till the hook be faſtned, and that the Fiſh beginneth to ſhoot away with the bait, ſo that a man then ſtriking can ſeldome or never looſe his labour.

Of Angling hooks.

Next to your Corks, is your hooks, and they be of divers ſhapes and faſhions, ſome big, ſome little, ſome between both, according to the Fiſh at which you angle: the beſt ſubſtance whereof to make them, is, either old Spaniſh needles, or elſe ſtrong wier drawn as near as may be to that height of temper, which being nealed and allaid in the fire, you may bend and bow at your pleaſure. Now for the beſt ſoftning of your wier, if you make your hooks of old needles, you ſhall need but too hold them in the blaze of a candle till they be red hot, and then let them cool of themſelves, and they will be ſoft and pliand enough; but if you make your hooks of ſtrong Spaniſh wier, you ſhall roule it round, and lay it upon burning charcoales, turning it up and down till it be all red hot in every place, then let it gently coole of it ſelfe, and it will be ſoft enough. Now for the making of your hooks, I adviſe you to go to ſuch as are beſt reputed for making of them, and buy of all ſorts from the biggeſt to the leaſt, that is to ſay, from that which taketh the Loach, to that which taketh the Salmon; and let them lie before you for examples: then look of what ſorts of hooks you intend to make, and with a fine File, firſt make the point of your hook, which would neither be too ſharp, for then it will catch hold of every thing, when it ſhould not, nor too blunt, leſt it faile to take hold when there is occaſion: therefore in that obſerve a mean, making it leſſe then a fine needle, and more ſharp then a ſmall Pinne. When you have made the point, then with a thin knife of a very good edge, you ſhall cut out and raiſe up the beard, which you ſhall make greater or leſſe, according to the bigneſſe of the hook, and the ſtrength of the wier: for you muſt by no means cut the beard ſo deep, that thereby you weaken the hook, but it muſt be as ſtrong in that place as any other. When the point and beard is made, you ſhall with a fine pair of round plyers, turn and compaſſe the hook about, making it round, circular-wiſe, being

being ſomewhat more then a ſemicircle, and ever obſerve that the rounder the compaſſe or bout commeth in, that ſo much the better proportioned the hook is. This done, you ſhall leave as much as you think convenient for the ſhank, and then cut it off from the reſt of the wier: which done you ſhall beat the end down flat, and ſomewhat broader then the reſt, and ſo polliſh and ſmooth it all over, then heating it red hot in a little pan of Charcoals, put it ſuddainly into the water, and quench it, which will bring your hook to a full ſtrength and hardneſs. Thus you ſee how to make hooks of all ſizes and ſhapes, whether they be ſingle or double hooks, for although the quantities alter, yet the ſhapes do not; and the double hook, which is the Pike-hook, is no other, but two ſingle hooks all of one wier turned contrary waies, and this double hook muſt not have the line fixt unto it, but a ſtrong wier joined unto it, of three inches long, well wound, and wrapped with a ſmaller wier: then add to it another wier of the ſame length, as if they were two ſeverall links joined together, and then the line fixed to the laſt link; and therefore are called armed hooks, for they defend the line from ſhearing or cutting in pieces with the teeth of the Pike.

Now for your ſingle hooks, you ſhall thus fix them unto your lines, take a length of your twiſted haires, containing that number which is fit for the hook, and having made a ſtrong loop at the one end, lay the other end where there is no bout, upon the inſide of your hook; then with a ſtrong red ſilk, either ſingle or double, according to the bigneſſe of the hook, being well waxed, whip and wrap the hook round about, as thick, cloſe, and ſtrait, as may be, in ſuch ſort as you ſee men whip their Bow ſtrings, and in the ſame manner make the ends of your ſilk faſt; then with a pair of ſizers, cut the ſilk and hairs off cloſe by the hook, and you may be ſure that they will not looſe one from another, with reaſonable violence.

After your hook is thus faſtned to your line, you ſhall then plumb your line, which is to fix certain pieces of lead, according to the bigneſſe of your line about it, ſome being in length a quarter of an inch, ſome bigger, and ſome leſſe, according unto

the weight of your hook, and bigneſſe of your cork, for theſe plummets are but only to carry down your hook, and lay it in the bottom, neither being ſo heavy to make the cork ſink, nor ſo light, as not with the ſmalleſt touch to make the cork dip into the water; you ſhall then underſtand, that your firſt plummet would be twelve or fourteen inches from the hook, the reſt not above one inch diſtance one from another, not being above five or ſeven at moſt, albeit ſome Anglers uſe nine, and ſome more, as their fancies rule them. There is in plumbing of lines, three ſeveral faſhions of plummets uſed, as one long, another ſquare, and the third in a Diamond form, but all tending to one end, have but one uſe, and the long ones are accounted the beſt, ſo that they be neatly ſet to, and the end very ſmooth and cloſe laid down, ſo that they tangle not the line by catching hold upon weeds, or other traſh in the bottome of the water.

Of other implements for Angles.

Thus have you ſeen the beſt choice of Rods, Lines, Corks, and Hooks, and how to fix and couple them altogether to do their ſeveral Offices; it now reſteth that we ſpeak of other neceſſary implements, which ſhould accompany the painful and induſtrious Angler, and they be theſe: He ſhall beſides theſe before ſpoken of, have a large musket-bullet, through which having fixed a double twiſted thread, and thereof made a ſtrong loop he may at his pleaſure hang it upon his hook, and therewith ſound the depth of every water, and ſo know how to plumb his lines, and place his cork in their due places; then he ſhall have a large ring of lead, ſix inches at leaſt in compaſſe, and made faſt to a ſmall long line, through which thruſting your Angle rod, and letting it fall into the water by your hair line, it will help to unlooſe your hook if it be faſtned either upon weed, or other ſtones in the water.

Then he ſhall have a fine ſmooth board, of ſome curious wood for ſhew ſake, being as big as a trencher, and cut battlement-wiſe at each end, on which he ſhall fold his ſeveral lines. His hooks he ſhall have in a dry cloſe box, he ſhall have a little bag of red cloath, to carry his worms in, and mixt with them a little freſh mould and Fennell: then he ſhall either have a cloſe ſtopt horn, in which he ſhall keep Maggots, Bobbes, Palmers,

mers, and ſuch like, or a hollow cane, in which he may put them, and Scarrabs: He ſhall have a cloſe box for all ſorts of live flies, and another for needles, ſilke, thread, Wax, and other looſe hairs; then a roul of pitch thread to mend the Angle rod withall, if it chance to break, a file, a knife, a pouch with many purſes, in which you may place all your implements whatſoever ſeverally.

Laſtly, he ſhall have a little fine wanded Peppe to hang by his ſide, in which he ſhall put the fiſh he catcheth; and a ſmall round net faſtned unto a poles end, where with he may land a Pike, or any other great fiſh of that kind whatſoever. To have alſo a little boat or Cot, if you Angle in great waters, to carry you up and down, to the moſt conveniencteſt places for your paſtime, is alſo right neceſſary, and fit for an Angler; and thus I have ſhewed you the ſubſtance of the Anglers inſtrument.

CHAP. II.

Of the Anglers Apparell, and inward Qualitiess

TOuching the Anglers apparel (for it is a reſpect as neceſſary as any other whatſoever) it would by no means be gariſh, light coloured, or ſhining, for whatſoever with a glittering hew reflecteth upon the water, immediately it frighteth the fiſh, and maketh them flie from his preſence; no hunger being able to tempt them to bite, when their eye is offended; and of all creatures there is none more ſharp ſighted then Fiſhes are.

Anglers apparel.

Let then your opparel be plain and comely; of a dark colour as Ruſſet, Tawny, or ſuch like, cloſe to your body, without any new faſhioned ſlaſhes, or hauging ſleeves, waving looſe, like ſails about you, for they are like blinks, which will ever chaſe your game from you: let it, for your own health and eaſe ſake, be warm and well lined, that neither the coldneſſe of the air, nor the moiſtneſſe of the water may offend you: keep your head and feet dry, for from the offence of them ſpringeth Agues, and worſe infirmities.

Anglers vertues.

Now for the inward qualities of the minde, albeit ſome Writers

Writers reduce them to twelve heads, which indeed whosoever enjoyeth, cannot chuse but be very compleat in much perfection, yet I must draw them into many more branches. The first, and most especiall whereof, is, that a skilfull augler ought to be a generall Scholler, and seen in all the Liberall Sciences, as a Grammarian, to know how either to Write or Discourse of his art in true and fitting terms, either without affectation or rudenesse. Hee should have sweetnesse of speech, to perswade and intice others to delight in an Exercise so much laudable. He should have strength of arguments to defend and maintain his profession, against envy or slaunder. He should have knowledge in the Sunne, Moon, and Starres, that by their aspects, he may guesse the seasonablenesse, or unseasonablenesse of the weather, the breeding of storms, and from what coasts the winds are ever delivered. Hee should be a good knower of Countries, and well used to high-waies, that by taking the readiest paths to every Lake, Brook, or River, his journies may be more certain, and lesse wearisome. He should have knowledge in proportions of all sorts, whether Circular, Square, or Diametricall, that when he shall be questioned of his diurnall progresses, he may give a Geographicall description of the angles and channels of Rivers, how they fall from their heads, and what compasses they fetch in their severall windings. He must also have the perfect art of numbring, that in the sounding of Lakes or Rivers, he may know how many foot or inches each severally containeth; and by adding, substracting, or multiplying the same, he may yeeld the reason of every Rivers swift or slow current. He should not be unskilfull in Musick, that whensoever either melancholly, heavinesse of his thought, or the perturbations of his own fancies, stirreth up sadnesse in him, he may remove the same with some godly Hymne or Anthem, of which *David* gives him ample examples.

He must be of a well setled and constant belief, to enjoy the benefit of his Expectation; for than to despair, it were better never to be put in practise: And he must ever think where the waters are pleasant, and any thing likely, that there the Creator of all good things hath stored up much of his plenty, and

and though your ſatisfaction be not as ready as your wiſhes, yet you muſt hope ſtill, that with perſeverance you ſhall reap the fulneſs of your harveſt with contentment. Then he muſt be full of love both to his Pleaſure and to his Neighbour: To his pleaſure: which otherwiſe will be irkſome and tedious; and to his Neighbour, that he neither give offence in any particular, nor be guilty of any general deſtruction: then he muſt be exceeding patient, and neither vex nor excruciate himſelf with loſſes or miſchances, as in loſing the prey when it is almoſt in the hand, or by breaking his Tools by ignorance or negligence, but with a pleaſed ſufferance amend errors, and think miſchances inſtructions to better carefulneſs.

He muſt then be full of humble thoughts, not diſdayning when occaſion commands to kneel, lye down, or wet his feet or fingers, as oft as there is any advantage given thereby, unto the gaining the end of his labour. Then muſt he be ſtrong and valiant, neither to be amazed with ſtormes, not affrighted with Thunder, but to hold them according to their naturall cauſes, and the pleaſure of the higheſt: neither muſt he, like the Fox which preyeth upon Lambes, imploy all his Labour againſt the ſmaller Frey: But like the Lyon that ſeazeth Elephants, think the greateſt Fiſh which ſwimmeth, a reward little enough for the pains which he indureth. Then muſt he be liberal, and not working only for his own belly, as if it could never be ſatisfied; but he muſt with much cheerfulneſſe beſtow the fruits of his skill amongſt his honeſt neighbours, who being partners of his gain, will doubly renown his triumph, and that is ever a pleaſing reward to vertue.

Then muſt he be prudent, that apprehending the Reaſons why the Fiſh will not bite, and all other caſuall impediments which hinder his ſport, and knowing the Remedies for the ſame he may direct his labours to be without troubleſomeneſs. Then he muſt have a moderate contentation of the mind to be ſatisfied with indifferent things, and not out of any avaritious greedineſs think every thing too little, be it never ſo abundant. Then muſt he be of a thankfull nature, praiſing the Author of all goodneſſe, and ſhewing a large gratefulneſſe for the leaſt ſatisfaction.

Then muſt he be of a perfect memory, quick and prompt to call into his mind all the needfull things which are any way in this exerciſe to be imployed, leſt by omiſſion or by forgetfulneſſe of any, hee fruſtrate his hopes, and make his labour effectleſſe. Laſtly, he muſt be of a ſtrong conſtiturion of body, able to endure much faſting, and not of a gnawing ſtomack, obſerving hours, in which if it be unſatisfied, it troubleth both the mind and body, and loſeth that delight which maketh the paſtime only pleaſing.

Cautions. Thus having ſhewed the inward Vertues and qualities which ſhould alwayes accompany a perfect Angler, it is very meet now to give unto you certain Cautions, which being carefully obſerved, you ſhall with more eaſe obtain the fulnes of your deſires. Firſt therefore, when you go to Angle, you ſhall obſerve that all your Tooles, Lines, or Implements be (as the Seaman ſaith) yare, fit, and ready; for to have them ravel'd, ill made or in unreadineſſe, they are great hindrances unto your pleaſure. Then look that your baits be good, ſweet, fine and agreeing with the ſeaſon: for if they be otherwiſe unproper in any of their natures, they are uſeleſs, and you had better been at home then by the River. Then you muſt not Angle in unſeaſonable times, for the Fiſh being not inclined to bite, it is a ſtrange inticement that can compel them. Then you muſt be carefull neither by your apparrel, motions, or too open ſtanding to give affright to the Fiſh, for when they are ſcared they flye from you, and you ſeek ſociety in an empty houſe. Then muſt you labour in clear and untroubled waters, for when the Brooks are any thing white, muddy and thick either through inundations or other trouble, it is impoſſible to get any thing with the Angle: Then, to reſpect the temper of the weather, for extream wind or extream cold taketh away all manner of appetite from fiſh: So doth likewiſe to violent heat, or rain that is great, heavy, and beating, or any ſtorms, Snows, haile, or bluſtrings, eſpecially that which commeth from the Eaſt, which of all is the worſt. Thoſe which blow from the South are beſt, and thoſe which come from the Norrh or Weſt are indifferent: Many other obſervations there are, but they ſhall follow in their due places.

CHAP.

CHAP. XII.

Of the best and worst Seasons to Angle in, and their Uses.

BEfore I direct you in the beſt Seaſons, and their contrary, for the generall Art of Angling, I think it not amiſs, a little by the way, to give you a glance or ſpeculation how to ordure your Body and Art of each ſeverall water: for the manner of your ſtanding and concealing of your ſelf is a material and chief point in this Art.

The Anglers manner of ſtanding.

Know then, that if you Angle in any Pond or ſtanding water, you ſhall before you fall to your buſineſſe, with your Plumbe, ſound the Water in divers places, and where you find it deepeſt, blackeſt, and leaſt tranſparent, there you ſhall ſtand to Angle, placing your ſelf under the bank, and if it be poſſible, ſo as your ſhadow may be carried from the water: For you muſt at no time, if you can chuſe, let your ſhadow lye upon the water: and although in theſe deep places your ſtanding open or cloſe, are either of them reckoned indifferent becauſe the waters depth is a ſufficient concealment, yet the cloſer you ſtand is accounted amongſt Anglers moſt handſome and artificial.

But if you goe to Angle at the River, then the beſt place to caſt in your Line, is, where it is deepeſt and cleereſt, ſo as you may behold the Sand or Gravell at the bottome: and in theſe places you ſhall ſtrive to conceal your ſelf as much as poſſible, as ſtanding behind Pr plars, Oziers, or other Trees, or under the covert of ſome Bank, Rock, or other ruines at the ſide of the River: alſo in covert places, where are many Weeds Roots of Trees, and other rubbiſh is good Angling, but very troubleſome: for fiſh lying there warm and in ſafety, will have a great reſort thereunto, and bite freely, ſo that the Angler muſt be carefull in the putting in of his hook, and very deliberate in ſtriking, leaſt doing any thing raſhly, he break his Line and hook, being never ſo little intangled.

It is good alſo to Angle in Whirle-pools, for they being like pits within the Rivers, are ſeldome unfurniſhed of the greateſt Fiſhes; alſo, it is good to Angle at the falls of water, as

under Bridges, ſtanding behind the Jawmes and Arches, or at the flood gates of Mills, being hid with the higher Timbers. And generally where you ſee the water is deepeſt, cleareſt, and calmeſt, being leaſt troubled with wind or weather, is the fitteſt place to angle in. Other obſervations there are, but they will follow in more neceſſary places.

The beſt ſeaſon to Angle in.

To return then to our firſt purpoſe. You ſhall know the beſt ſeaſon to Angle in, is from April to the end of October, ſpeaking of the general uſe of the pleaſure; and the beſt hours alſo in general account, are from four in the morning till nine, and from three in the afternoon till after five in the Evening, the wind blowing from South, Weſt, or North, and the ayr temperate, inclined to warmneſs; but to ſpeak of particular obſervations of ſeaſons, know that if the day be dark, cloſe and lowring, or have a gentle whiſtling wind playing upon the water, it is good to Angle in, and the Fiſh will bite with pleaſure: Nay, if a fine mizling dew of rain fall gently, without violence, they will then bite the faſter: alſo after floods are gone away, and the Rivers are come within their own banks, the firſt cleerneſſe recovered, and the water pure, then it is good to angle. And generally for your Summer angling, chuſe the cooleſt time of the day, for in the heat of the day Fiſh betake themſelves to their reſt, and will neither bite nor play.

But for your Winter Angling, which is from October to April; you ſhall not make any difference of time, if the weather be calme, for all hours of the Sun are alike, onely the noon-tide or mid-day is moſt preferred, eſpecially in Ponds and ſtanding water. If the water where you Angle, ebbe or flow, the beſt time of Angling, is held to be in the ebbe: yet in ſome places, where the tide is not great, there the flood is preferred. Laſtly, whenſoever you ſee the Trout play or leap above the water, and the Pike ſhut in purſuit of other fiſhes, it is then a very good time to Angle in uſing ſuch baits as are then meet for the month and ſeaſon, as ſhall be ſhewed hereafter.

Seaſons ill to Angle in.

Now for thoſe ſeaſons which are naught to angle in, there is none worſe than in the violent heat of the day, or when the Winds are loudeſt, Rain heavieſt, Snow and Hail extreameſt: Thunder and Lightning are offenſive, or any ſharp ayr which

flyeth

flyeth from the East: the places where men uſe to waſh Sheep you ſhall forbear, for the very ſmell of the Wool will chaſe fiſh from their haunts, Land floods are enemies to anglers, ſo alſo at the fall of the leaf is the ſhedding of leaves into the water, & many other ſuch like pollutions, of which we will ſpeak ſomething more hereafter.

Therefore, to conclude this Chapter; and to ſhew you as well how to find your fiſh, as the Art to take it being found, you ſhall know that the Carp, Ele, and Tench do ever haunt muddy places: the firſt, which is the Carp, lyeth ever in the depth and bottome thereof: the Tench, among the weeds and roots of Sedges, and the Eele under ſtones, blocks, or the Roots of Trees. Of Fiſhes Haunts.

The Bream, the Chevin, and the Pike, haunt ever in the cleer and ſandy bottome: the Pike where you ſee great ſtore of ſmall fry; the Chevin where the ſtream runneth ſwifteſt, and the ſhade is greateſt; and the Bream where the water is broadeſt, and the depth giveth greateſt liberty; and generally theſe three ſorts of fiſh delight more in ſtanding waters then in running Rivers, although the ancient Proverb is,

Ancome Eele, and Witham Pike,
In all England is none like.

which are Rivers in *Lincoln-ſhire*. Now the Salmon hath his haunt in the ſwifteſt and broadeſt Rivers, whoſe Channels fall down into the Sea: The Trout loveth ſmaller brooks, whoſe current is ſwift, clear, gravelly, and ever hath his lodging in the deepeſt holes that are therein; and the Perch haunteth Rivers of the ſame nature, only he abideth moſt in creeks and hollowneſſes, which are about the bank; and indeed theſe three Fiſhes generally, Salmon, Trout and Perch, love clear ſtreames, being green with weeds, and the bottomes hard with gravel and pibble.

The Gudgeon, the Loach, and the Bulhead, haunt ever ſhalloweſt places, and where ſtreams are ſlow yet tranſparent; The Barbel, Roch, Dace, & Ruff, haunt the deep ſhady places of thoſe brooks which are mixt with more ſand than gravell, or where the clay is firm and not ſlimy, and delight ever to lye under the ſha-

ſhadows of Trees, brambles or other things growing from the banke.

The Luce or Lucern, which indeed is but the over-grown Pike, haunteth the broad and large Meares, which are miles in compaſſe, being deep and ſtill, and ever lodgeth in the bottome thereof amongſt the Roots and Tufts of Sedge, and bulruſhes, being quiet and leaſt troubled. The Humber haunts the clayie Rivers of High Countries: where the ſoyle is Rich and full of Marle, or in Lakes or ponds of the ſame nature. The Shad and Tweat, haunt thoſe waters which are brackiſh deep, and accuſtomed to ebb and flow: and where they haunt, there commonly alſo is found both the Mullet and Suant: all which love to lodge cloſe and flat at the bottome of the water, ſo it be more Ooze than gravel.

Objection. But here now methinks, I heare the curious reprehend me, ſaying, that if theſe Rules ſhould be infallible, that then no River or Pond could not contain above three ſorts of Fiſh only, when dayly Experience ſheweth us, that ſome Rivers have ten, ſome twenty, and ſome thirty, as the Trent for example, whoſe antient name in French is *Trianta*, in Latine *Triginta*, and in Engliſh *Thirty*, derived from this ground becauſe there ſtandeth upon her, thirty Caſtles, thirty Market Towns, and are in her thirty ſeverall ſorts of fiſhes.

Anſwer. To which I thus anſwer, that for as much as into moſt Rivers falleth many ſeverall waters and many ſoiles, according unto the nature of thoſe Countries through which the Channels runne, that therefore every alteration of ſoyl may alter the breed of Fry, and many ſeverall kinds may be in one Stream, ſo that the Angler in the choice of his paſtime in ſuch places, muſt either have a perfect knowledge how the ſoyles doe alter (which he may commonly know by the banke,) or elſe rely upon his experience, which will be the beſt Tutor to direct him unto the haunts of ſeverall fiſhes; but for ponds or ſtanding waters which are of one earth, there you ſhall ſurely find them beſt proſper, which are before rehearſed.

CHAP.

CHAP. XIII.

Of Baits in general, and of every particular kind: their Seasons, Use and preservations.

SInce I have thus far orderly passed over the outward and instrumental necessaries appertaining to this modest Recreation, shewing the several tooles and implements which are to be imployed therein, and have also shewed the inward and mental knowledge which should be harboured in his breast that will be an Angler; I will now proceed to speak of the Baites and inticements, which are the Agents and effecters of our desires in this pastimes, without which all other implements are vain and useless: for what doth it availe to have all other things in imperfection, when this, which is the strength and life of the rest, is either imperfect or defective?

To speak then generally of baites, they are divided into three kinds, which are, Life-baits, dead baits, and baits living but in appearance only. Your life-baits are worms of all kinds, especially the Red-worm, the Maggot, the Bobb, the Dor, Brown-flyes, Frogs, Grashoppers, Hornets, Wasps, Bees, Snails, small Roches Bleaks, Gudgeons, or Loches. You dead baits are pasts of all makings, your brood of Wasps, dryed or undryed, the clotted bloud of Sheep, Cheese, Bramble-berries, Corn, Seeds; Cherries, and such likg. And your baits which seem to live, yet are dead, are flyes artificially made of all sorts and shapes, made of silke and feathers about your hooks, which will serve for every several season through the year, and being by your Line moved upon the water, seem to be live flyes, which the Fish with great greedines will catch up and devour.

Seasons. Now for the season in which these baites are most profitable, you shall understand that the Red worm will serve for small fish all the year long; the Maggot is good in July, the Bobb and Dor in May, the brown flyes in June, Froggs in March, Grashoppers in September, Hornets in July, Wasps and Bees in July, Snails in August, for the Roch, Bleak or Gudgeon, they serve the Pikes at any season: all Pastes are good in May, June, and July; dryed Wasps in May: Sheeps bloud and Cheese in Aprill:

Of Flyes.

April: for Bramble-berries, Corn and seeds, they are good at the fall of the Leaf. Lastly, for your dead flyes, which are most proper for the Trout or Graveling, you shall know that the Dun Flye is good in March being the lesser, but the greater Dun Fly will serve the latter end of February: the Stone flye is good in April, the Red flye, and Yellow Fly in May; the Black flye, the dark Yellow flye, and the Mooriſh flye in June; the Tawny Fly part in May, and part of June, the Waſp flye, and the ſhell flye in July, and the clowdy dark flye in Auguſt.

The making of Flyes.

Now for the making of theſe flyes, the cloudy dark flye is made of black woole, clipt from between a Sheeps Eares, and whipt about with a black ſilk, his wings of the under maile of the Marlard, and his head made black and ſuitable, fixed upon a fine piece of Cork, and folded ſo cunningly about the hooke, that nothing may be perceived but the point and beard onely. The ſhel flye is made of fine greene Floxe, and the wings of the wings of a Pew-glead: the Waſp Flye is made of Black Wool, lapt about with yellow ſilke, and the wings of the down of a Buzzard; the Tawny flye is made of twany wool, and the wings ſet on contrary to another, and made of the white down of a Widgeon: the mooriſh flye is made of fine flocks ſhorne from a freeſe-gray Ruſſet, and the wings of a Drake: the bright yellow flye is made of yellow wool, and his wings of a Red Cocks yellow main: the ſad yellow flye is made of black wool, with a twiſted yellow ſilk, like a liſt, whipt down on either ſide, and the wings of the wings of a Buzzard, ſet on with black thread: the black flye is made of black wool, and lapt about with the herle of a Peacocks tayl, his wings with the brown feathers of the Mallard, and ſome of his Blew feathers on his head: the Red flye is made of Red wool, lapt about with black ſilk, and the wings of the Mail of a Mallard, with ſome of the feathers of a Capon: the Stone flye is made of black wool made yellow under the wings, and under the tayl with ſilk, and the wings of Drakes down: the greateſt Dun flye is made of black wool, and his wings of the Dun feathers of a Drakes tayle; the leſſer Dun flye is made of dun wool, and his wings of the mail of a Partridge.

Now for the ſhapes and proportions of theſe Flyes, it is impoſſible to deſcribe them without Painting, therefore you ſhall take

of theſe ſeveral flies alive, and laying them before you, try how neer your art can come unto nature, by an equal ſhape and mixture of colours; and when you have made them, you may keep them in cloſe boxes uncruſhed, and they wil ſerve you many yeers.

Now for the preſervation and keeping of your quick baits (for longer then they are neat and ſweet they are not good) you ſhall underſtand, that they muſt not be kept altogether, but every kind ſeveral by it ſelfe, and nouriſhed with ſuch comforts, as it delighteth in, when it is at liberty, or with ſuch things as they breed in or upon, when they are firſt taken. And firſt for the Red worme: when you take them, you ſhall put them in a bag of red cloath, and chopping a handfull of Fennell, mixe it with halfe ſo much freſh mould being black and fertile, and they will both live and ſcour therein. There be ſome anglers which put wet moſſe both under and above them: Others there be, which put Parſly or ſweet Marjoram unto them, but the former way is the beſt, ſo you obſerve every night to renew their earth, or once in two dayes to refreſh them with a little new Oxe-dung; and thus you may keep them two months without imperfection. For the great white maggots, you ſhall mix with them ſheeps tallow, or little bits of a beaſts liver; the beſt way to ſcour them, is to put them into a bag of blanketting, with ſand; and hang them where they may have the air of the fire, or other warmth, for the ſpace of an hour or two. For Frogs and Graſhoppers, you ſhall keep them in wet moſſe, and long graſſe, moiſtned every night in water; and when you angle with them, you ſhall cut off their legs by the knees, and the Graſhoppers wings neer unto the body; for other worms, as the Bob, Cadis-worm, Canker, and ſuch like, you ſhall keep them with the ſame things you find upon them; and for all live flies, you ſhall uſe them as you take them, only the Waſp, the Hornet, and Humble-Bee, which is without ſting, you ſhall firſt dry them a little in a warm oven after the bread is drawn, and then dip all their head into ſheeps blood, and then dry them again, and ſo keep them in a cloſe box, and they will continue two or three months in all good perfection.

Preſervation of Baits.

Now laſtly, to ſpeak of your made baits, which are paſtes, the moſt of them will laſt the whole year, and as they be di-

Of making paſtes.

vers, ſo I will ſhew you how to compound every one of them in his true and perfect nature. Firſt, to make paſtes that ſhall laſt longeſt; you ſhall take Bean flower, and thoſe parts of the Conies leg, which is called the Almond of the Coney, or if it be of a fat young Whelp, or a Cat, it is as good: and to theſe put alike quantity of Virgin Waxe, and ſheeps ſuet, and then beat them together in a morter, untill they be made one body, then with a little clarified honey, temper it before the fire, and ſo make it up in round bals, and it will laſt all the year: and the uſe thereof is, when you angle, to bait your hook therewith, and not any Fiſh which ſwimmeth in freſh waters, but will greedily bite thereat.

There is alſo another paſte which is of equal quality and uſe with this, and will laſt as long, and that is, to take the Kidney-tallow of a ſheep, and as much young Cheeſe, and beat them in a mortar till they be one body, then add to them as much wheat-flower, as will bring it to an exceeding ſtiffe paſte, then knead it before the fire, and allay the ſtiffneſſe with life-honey, and ſo make it up into bals.

The uſe of this paſte is like the former. Take the blood of a Sheep, and of honey, like quantity, and beat them together with a lump of freſh cheeſe, then with the fine grated crums of white bread, work them into a ſtiff paſte, and ſo role it up in bals; and when you angle, do not bait your hook therewith, but now and then caſt little pellets thereof into the water, and it will intice the fiſh to reſort unto you, and to bite with great greedineſſe.

There be others which take bread crums, and beat them in a Mortar with ripe Cherries (the ſtones being taken out) untill it come to a ſtiffe paſte, and then knead it up into bals, and uſe it as you do that which was laſt recited: It is moſt approved, and very excellent for all ſorts of Fiſh in freſh waters.

Laſtly, if you take the oyle of the Aſpray, and Coculus Indiæ, and Aſſa fœtida beaten, and mixe with as much life-Honey, and then diſſolve them in the oile of Polypody, and ſo keep it in a cloſe glaſſe; then when you angle annoint your bait with this confection, and though the weather be never ſo unſeaſonable, or the fiſh never ſo ill diſpoſed to bite, yet be ſure you ſhall not

loſe

loſe your labour, but take when all men elſe faile of their purpoſe: for the ſecret hath been rarely approved, and hitherto hath been concealed with great ſecreſie. And thus much for baits, and their uſes.

CHAP. XIV.

Of angling for every ſeverall kind of Fiſh: according to their natures.

NOw to ſhew you how you ſhal angle moſt properly for every ſeveral Fiſh, with true art, according to the nature of the fiſh, I think it not amiſſe, firſt to begin with the Goodgin, Roch, and Dace, which being Fiſhes of eager bite, moſt fooliſh, leaſt afrightful, and ſooneſt deceived, are the firſt fitteſt preys for youug Schollers, and ſuch as are but learners in the art of Angling; for the eaſineſſe of their gaining, will not only ſettle an unreſolved mind, but give unto ignorance, both comfort and incouragement. Of the Goodgin, Roch and Dace.

If then you will angle for any of theſe ſmall Fiſhes in great ſtreams, it ſhall be meet to take a boat, and finding the places of their haunt, which is commonly in ſandy clear waters, and where they run ſwifteſt, their angle for them with your ſmalleſt hooks, well headed, and ſmalleſt lines, well corkt. Your hook would rather drag than be an inch from the bottome, and your beſt bait is the Red-worme, Cod-worme, Maggot, clotted blood of Sheep cut in little bits, or elſe the white ſpawn or brood of Waſps: and ever as ſoon as you ſee the cork ſtir, ſuddenly ſtrike, for they will lie nibling at the bait, and finding the hook forſake it. If you angle for them in ſmall brooks, you ſhall ſtand under bridges, at the falls of Mils, behind Poplars, or Oziers, or any where, where the ſtream runneth deep and ſwift. And ever note, that when your bite fails, you remove your place, and ſeek out a new ſtanding; and withall forget not ever when you angle for any of theſe fiſh, to caſt in ſome of your paſte before your hook, for this will make your ſport much more abundant: and although the Dace out of his own nature, biteth high, and neer the top of the water, yet theſe baits and intiſements will make him ſtoop, and be taken eaſily.

Of the Carps. If you will angle for the Carp, you muſt have a ſtrong Rod and a ſtrong Line, of at leaſt ſeven or nine hairs, and either mixt with green or watched ſilk, your cork muſt be large, long and ſmooth: your leads ſmooth and cloſe, and fixt neer the hook, and the hook almoſt of a three penny compaſſe. He is very dainty to bite, but at ſome ſpecial hours, as very early in the morning, or very late at night, and therefore he muſt be very much entiſed with paſte: his beſt baits are the Moſs-worm, the Red worm, or the Menow, for he ſeldome refuſeth them. The Cadis-worm is good for him in *June*, and the maggot, black worme, or Graſhopper, in *July*, *Auguſt* and *September*. If you make him paſte of ſour ale, white of eggs and bread-crums, it will very much entiſe him. Alſo I would ever wiſh you before you fiſh for the Carp, to caſt in a handful of white bread chippings into the Pond or River, for they will not only entice him to your bait, but alſo give you notice if you be neer his haunt, for you ſhall preſently hear him ſmack above the water; and then if you miſſe him, either your fortune or ſkill is not good.

Of the Chub, Chevin, or Trout. If you wil angle for the Chub, Chevin, or Trout, all your inſtruments muſt be ſtrong and good: your rod dark and diſcoloured, your line ſtrong, but ſmall and ſhort, your hook of a two-penny compaſſe: and if you angle with a flie, then nor lead, nor cork, nor quil; if otherwiſe, then all of a handſome and ſuitable proportion.

The beſt ſtanding to take them, is in cloſe and concealed places, as behind trees, wals, or arches of bridges: their haunts, are in clear waters which run upon ſand or gravel: and they are in beſt ſeaſon, from *March* till *Michaelmas*. If you angle for them with dead flies without lead, or cork, I have ſhewed you in the former Chapter, the ſeveral flies for each ſeverall month; but if you angle for them with other baits, then you muſt have both cork and lead, for he will bite near the bottome, yet ſometimes you may angle for him with a ſmall menow, hang'd at your hook by the neather parts, without cork or lead, and ſo draw the bait upon the top of the water; and both with it, and with every flie, ſtrike rather before than after he biteth. If you angle for him at the ground, in *March*, *April*, *May*, and *Sep-*

September, the menow is good baite, ſo is the Stone-fly, Cadis-worm, Bob, Red worm, ditch canker, young frogs, the worm that breedeth on the Ozier leafe, and the Dock-canker mixt together. In *June*, Crickets and Dore-flies are good: In *July* the Graſhopper is good, ſo is the Humble bee, dried Waſps, or dried Hornets, or any of their young brood in the combs: In *Auguſt*, flying Piſmires are good, ſo is the Colewort-worm, or the Maggot. And in *September*, either Cherries, Mice before they have any hair, or the great Sow-worm.

If you will angle for the Eele, the beſt place is at Wares, Mil-ponds, bridges, hollow banks, or any ſwift falling water: your Line ſtrong, and not above two els in length, and very heavily plumb'd, a good round hook, but no cork, becauſe you muſt not ſtrike till the Eele pluck: neither muſt you by any means pull haſtily, but holding your Line ſtiffe, with labour and Patience tire him, leſt that tearing his chaps, you loſe him. The beſt baite is the Red worme, or little pieces of ſheeps guts. Of the Eele.

The Flounder and Sewant are greedy biters, yet very crafty: for they will nibble and ſuck at a bait a good while before they ſwallow it, and if they perceive the hook, they will flie from it. Therefore to make them more haſty of the bait, you muſt ever be moving your line, and ſeldome let it lie ſtill. They lie moſt commonly in the deepeſt places of the River, where the water is ſtilleſt, and runneth with leaſt force. Alſo they lie near unto the bank, and delight moſt in the ſtream which is backiſh, and mixt with the ſalt water. Your lines muſt be ſtrong, and well plumb'd near to the hook: and the beſt bait, is the Red worm, and the young brood of Waſps. Of the flounder and Sewant.

The Barbel or Greyling, which ſome call the Ember, are very ſubtile and crafty fiſhes: Therefore you muſt be very careful that your baits be ſweet and new, and when you angle for them, do in all things as you do for the Trout; for they bite aloft in the Summer, and at the bottome in the Winter. Your Lines muſt be extraordinary ſtrong, and your hooks of a three penny compaſſe, for they are fiſhes of weighty bodies, and when they are ſtruck, muſt have liberty to play and tire themſelves, or elſe they will indanger the breaking of your Rod, and therefore Of the Greyling or Barbel

your line muſt be of the longeſt ſize.

The beſt ſeaſon to angle for the Bream, is from the latter end of *February*, till *September*: he is a very luſty ſtrong fiſh, and therefore your tools muſt be good: the baits in which he moſt delighteth is, in worms of all ſorts, Butter-flies, green flies, paſte of bread crums, or the brood of Waſps.

Of the Tench. The Tench is a fiſh that ever loveth the bottome of Rivers, where the Ooze or mud is thickeſt; and is moſt fit to be angled for, in height of Summer, for at other ſeaſon he is not apt to bite, and all times he is very dainty.

The baits in which he delighteth moſt, is paſtes that are very ſweet; and the browner the better, eſpecially if it be made with the blood of a Sheep. At the great red worm alſo, he will bite; and ſo much the ſooner, if you mixe them with this paſte; the Maggot and dried Waſp, he will ſeldome refuſe, chiefly being dipt in honey.

Of the Bleak, Ruffe, and Perch. The Bleak, Ruff, and Perch, are fiſhes which bite neither high nor low, but for the moſt part in the midſt of the water therefore your line muſt be very lightly plumb'd, and far from the hook. The baits which moſt intice them, beſides the red-worm, is the houſe-flie in the ſummer, and fat of bacon in the winter: in *April* they will bite well at the Bob-worm or Maggot, and in all other ſeaſons, they ſeldome refuſe any worm or canker. Your line would be ſmall, and well armed from the hook a handful, with ſmall wier, for the teeth of the Perch will elſe gnaw it aſunder

Of the Pike. The Pike is a fiſh of great ſtrength and weight, inſomuch, that you can hardly have a line of hair to hold him; therefore your beſt Anglers uſe moſt commonly a Chaulk line: your angle-rod alſo muſt have no ſmall top, but be all of one piece and bigneſs, and the line made exceeding faſt from ſlipping. Your hook would be of the ſtrongeſt wier, white or yellow, and made double, the points turning two contrary wayes, and then armed with ſtrong wier a foot at leaſt: his beſt bait is a little ſmall Roch, Dace, or Menow, the hook being put in at the tail, and comming forth under the gils, and you muſt ſeldome or never let your bait lie ſtill in water, but draw it up and down, as though the fiſh did move in the water, and fled from the Pike,

for

for this will make him more eager and hasty to bite: and having bit, you must be sure to tyre him well before you take him up.

The yellow live Frog is also an excellent bait for the Pike, for you must understand, that they naturally delight not in any dead or unmoving food.

There be some which take a great deal of delight and pleasure to Snickle or halter the Pike, which is good when Pikes are broke out of Ponds or Rivers, and come into small Ditches or Rundles, as is oft to be seen in low-Countries. The way then to halter them, is, first to find the Pike where he lieth (which in the heat of the day, you may easily doe) then take your Chaulk-line, and making a large running nooze thereof, put it gently into the water, about two feet before the nose of the Pike, then when you feel it touch the ground, cause one to go behind the Pike, and with a pole to stir him, then as he shooteth, meeteth him with your nooze, and so with a sudden and quick jerk throw him upon the land. In this sport you must be very ready, nimble, and quick sighted, for if you give him the least time, he will escape you. Of Snickling the Pike.

Now lastly, touching the angling for the Salmon, albeit he is a fish which in truth is unfit for your travell, both because he is too huge and cumbersome, as also in that he naturally delighteth to lie in the bottomes of great deep Rivers, and as near as may be in the midst of the channel, yet forasmuch as many men esteem that best which is got with most difficulty, you shall understand that the bait which he most delighteth, are those which serve for the Trout, as paste or flies in the Summer; and Red-worms, Bob-worms, or Cankers on the water-docks after *Michaelmas*. And thus much for the art of angling, and taking of each severall sort of fish which live in the fresh or brackish waters. Of the Salmon.

CHAP.

CHAP. XV.

Of taking Fiſh without Angles: and firſt of laying Hooks.

THe laying of hooks to take fiſh in the night, is moſt commonly uſed for the Pike, in great broad Waters or Meers, full of ſedges, bulruſhes, and other weeds, being very deep and muddy: Some do uſe to lay them for the Eele alſo, but you ſhall underſtand, that if you lay for the Pike, you muſt by no means let your hook go to the bottom, but with a float keep it half a foot from the ground, but if you lay for Eels, then let your hooks be ſmaller, and ſink as low as they will.

Now for the manner of laying them, you ſhall bait the hooks as you did when you angled, with Menow, Roch, Dace, Gudgen, or Millers thumb: and being made faſt to ſtrong pack-thread, faſten alſo that pack-thread to a ſtrong cord, which cord if it be three fadom in length, may hold ſixteen or twenty hooks. Then fixing two ſtrong ſtakes into the earth, faſten the two ends of the big cord to the two ſtakes, and ſo let it lie from Sun-ſet, untill Sun-riſe, and you ſhall never faile, but ſome of your hooks will have taken. Only obſerve if you lay for Pikes, to lay in the midſt of the water, neer unto the ſedge and weeds: but if you lay for eeles, lay very neer the banks, ſo there be no hollow or rotten trees growing thereon.

Now if you would with theſe laid hooks take any other ſort of Fiſh, you ſhall lay ſuch hooks as are fit for them: and before you depart away, caſt into the water good ſtore of pellets of thoſe paſtes which are proper for the fiſhes you would take: as the paſte which is made of bran, ſheeps blood, garlick, and lees of wine, will take all ſorts of ſmall fiſh: that paſte which is made of ſheeps liver, guts, hogs blood, bread crums, and Opoponax, will bring Perch, Tench, Carp, or Bream, unto your hooks, and that paſte which is only made of Rue, Pine-apple kernels, bean meal and hony, will bring the Salmon, the Trout, Chevin, or Barbels unto your hooks, at all times of the year.

CHAP.

CHAP. XVI.

Of preſerving Fiſh from all ſorts of Devourers.

AMongſt all the Ravenous Creatures which deſtroy Fiſh, there is none more greedy than the Otter, whoſe only food being thereon, hourly lyeth in wait to conſume them: Therefore though ſome Fiſher-men uſe to take them with a Wheel made with a double tunnel, and called by the name of the Otter-wheel, whoſe practice is ſo ordinary, that every Fiſher-man knows the uſe of the ſame; Yet for a more eaſie and ready way to deſtroy him, you ſhall as near as you can find out his haunt, and the holes that are in the bank, and under the Roots of Trees where he lodgeth, and then take a great Eele, and ſlitting her back above her navel, put in three or four lumps of *Arſnick*, and then ſtitch up the skin again, and ſo lay the Eele from the navel downward in the water, and from the navel upward out of the water: which when the Otter finds, it is his property to eat unto the navell, and no further, which if he do, it is certain that it is the laſt he will eat.

Next to the Otter, the Hern is a great devourer of Fiſh, eſpecially the ſmall frye, or that which lives in ſhallow places: Therefore to deſtroy the Hern, you ſhall take a ſtrong Barbell hook, and baite it, either with a Minow, or a peece of Doggs fleſh, colour your Line green and lay it in a ſhallow place made faſt to ſome ſtake, where the Hern may wade to the knee to take it, and as ſoon as he hath ſwallowed, he ſhall no more go from the place.

Now, for as much as the Foul is a great deſtruction unto the young Spawn or Fry of Fiſh, it ſhall be good for the preſervation thereof, to ſtake down into the bottome of your Ponds good long Kids or Faggots of bruſh-wood, mixt with the boughs of green Willows, or Oziers, in which the Fiſh caſting their Spawn it will be a defence for them, till they be able to flye into better ſafety.

Next to the Hern the Water-Rat is a great deſtroyer of young

fiſh, eſpecially Trouts, Creviſſes, or any that lye in holes in the banks: the beſt way to deſtroy them is by hunting them with water Dogges which is a very good ſport, and I have ſeen twenty kild in an afternoon: but ſome do uſe to take them with hurches, or dead-falls, ſet in their haunts: but the former way is the better.

Next them, the Sea-pye, and Sea-mew, is a great devourer or conſumer of Fiſh, and there is no better way to take him than by ſetting Rods dreſt with water Lime, and ſet ſtoring on the edge of the water, one gueſſe or row over another, in ſuch places as the Water is moſt ſhalloweſt; and upon ſome tufts of green Weeds, lay a fiſh for a bait under the Rods, at which he can no ſooner ſtrike, but he is preſently taken.

Next theſe the Kings Fiſher (which is a ſmall green bird) is a great deſtroyer of Fiſh, and the way to take him is to mark his haunt where he commonly ſitteth, which is ever in ſome buſh next the River: then ſet a little Cradle of limed ſtraws about his ſeat, and they will quickly take him, for he ſeldome changeth, but ever ſitteth upon one bough.

Now to conclude, for the Cormorant, the More-hen, the bald coot, or the Oſpray, which deſtroy all kind of Fiſh whatſoever, there is no way better to kill them, then by watching their haunts, to ſhoot at them with a Fowling piece, and in the breeding time of the year to deſtroy their neſts.

CHAP. XVII.

Of the Ordering of Ponds, for the nouriſhment of Fiſh.

THere is nothing that killeth Fiſh, or maketh them to proſper worſe, than putrified and ſtinking waters: neither is there any thing which corrupteth water ſooner than weeds, Sedge, and ſuch filthineſſe, being ſuffered to grow therein; Therefore it ſhall be good once in three years for to cleanſe your Ponds of all manner of Weeds and Filth, which with a ſmall Boat and ſharp hook you may eaſily do at the fall of the leafe, for to cut them in the Spring doth increaſe them. Now if your Ponds be much ſubject to mud, as for the moſt part thoſe in clay

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Countryes are, then it ſhall be good once in ſeaven years to drain them, and lade them, and this would be done at the beginning of the Spring; and ſuch Fiſh as you are willing and mean to preſerve, you ſhall put into ſmaller pits or ſtews, and the other diſpoſe at your pleaſure: then cauſing the mud to be troden with mens feet as you tread morter, you ſhall ſee all the Eeles riſe aloft, which when you have taken alſo, then with ſhovels and trough Spades caſt out all the mud and filth (which is a ſingular compoſt for Land) upon the bank: then fodde the bottome of the Pond, and the ſides with green fodds and fix them hard into the Earth with ſmall ſtakes of Sallow, and theſe ſides will nouriſh the Fiſh exceedingly.

This done, if your Pond have not any freſh Spring in it, then you ſhall laid the water back again into it, and then draining your ſtews, take out your ſtore of Fiſh, and put them again into your Pond, obſerving ever that there be two parts, ſpawners; and but a third melters.

Theſe pits and ſmall ſtewes, howſoever others write to the contrary, are better for feeding of Fiſh, then breeding: therefore you ſhall ever keep them with freſh water, and placing ſo one by another, that you may empty them at pleaſure, once in three months renew their banks and bottomes with freſh foddes of the fruitfulleſt graſs; alſo, you ſhall put into them good ſtore of ſmall Fry of Roch Dace, Menow, Loch, and Miller thumbes: for the bigger Fiſh will feed thereon: alſo the inward Garbage and blood of Sheep, Calves, Hoggs, and ſuch like, which will fat fiſh ſuddainly; for you muſt know that as the Fiſh in Rivers have by vertue of the current, ever ſomething brought to them to feed on, ſo the Fiſh which is impriſoned in Ponds and wants that help, muſt either be relieved or elſe periſh, and there is nothing better to feed them with, then that before ſpoken of or elſe Brewers grains, chippings, curds, and any corne whatſoever, thrown into the Ponds, Morning and Evening.

CHAP. XVIII
Of the beſt Water-Lime.

THe beſt water Lime that can be made, and which will moſt ſurely hold within the water, is to take a pound of the ſtrongeſt Bird lime, and waſh it in nine running waters, untill there be no hardneſſe in it, and then beat out the water clean, and dry it. Which done, put it into an earthen pot, and adde thereto as much Capons Greaſe as will make it runne, two ſpoonfulls of ſtrong vinegar, a very little Lamp Oyle, and Venice Turpentine, and boyl them all gently together upon a ſoft fire, ſtirring it continually. Then take it from the fire, and let it cool, then at any time when you mean to uſe it, warm it, and then annoynt either your Rods, Buſhes, Straws, or Lines, and no water will take away the ſtrength.

Of the Fighting Cocks.

CHAP. XIX:

Of the Choyce, Ordering, Breeding, and Dyeting of the Fighting-Cock for Battell.

Since there is no pleaſure more Noble, Delightſome, or void of couzenage and deceit then this pleaſure of Cocking is; and ſince many of the beſt wiſdomes of our Nation have been pleaſed to participate with the delights therein, I think it not amiſs, as well for the inſtruction of thoſe which are unexperienced, as fortifying of them which have ſome knowledge therein, to declare in a few Lines the Election, Breeding, and Secrets of dyeting the Fighting Cock, which having been hitherto concealed and unwritten of, is (for our pleaſure ſake) as worthy of a general knowledge as any delight whatſoever.

To ſpeak then firſt of the choyce of the Fighting Cock, you ſhall underſtand that the beſt Characters you can obſerve in him is the ſhape, Colour, Courage, and ſharp heel; for his ſhape, the middle and different ſize is ever accounted beſt, becauſe they be ever moſt matchable, ſtrong, nimble, and ready for your pleaſure. The choyce of the Cock for the battel.

ſure in his battle : and ſo the exceeding little Cock is as hard to match, and is commonly weak and tedious in his manner of Fighting. He would be of a proud and upright ſhape, with a ſmall head, like unto a ſpar-hawk, a quick large eye, and a ſtrong back, crookt and bigge t the ſetting on, and in colour ſuitable to the plume of his feathers, as black, yellow, or reddiſh. The beam of his legge would be very ſtrong, and according to his Plume, Blew, Gray, or yellow : his ſpurres long, rough, and ſharpe, a little bending and looking inward.

For his Colour, the gray pyle, the yellow pyle, or the red with the black breaſt is eſteemed the beſt : the pide is not ſo good, and the white and dun are the worſt. If he be Red about the head, like skarlet, it is a ſign of luſt, ſtrength and courage, but if he be pale it is a ſign of ſickneſs and faintneſs.

For his courage, you ſhall obſerve it in his walke, by his treading, and the pride of his going, and in his pen, by his oft crowing. For the ſharpneſſe of his heele, or as Cock-maſters call it, the narrow heele, it is onely ſeene in his fighting, for that Cock is ſaid to be ſharp heel'd or narrow heel'd, which every time he riſeth hitteth, and draweth bloud of his adverſary, gilding (as they term it) his ſpurres in bloud, and threatning at every blow an end of that Battaile.

And theſe Cocks are ſurely of great eſtimation, for the beſt Cock-Maſters are of opinion, that a ſharp heeld Cock, though he be a little falſe, is much better then the trueſt Cock which hath a dull heel, and hitteth ſeldome, for though the one fight long yet he ſeldome wounds, and the other though he will not indure the uttermoſt hewing, yet he makes a very ſuddain and quick diſpatch of his buſineſſe, for every blow puts his adverſary in danger.

But that Cock which is both aſſuredly hard, and alſo very ſharp heeld, he is to be eſteemed, and is of the moſt account above all other, and therefore in your general Election chuſe him which is of a ſtrong ſhape, good colour, true valour, and of a moſt ſharp and ready heel.

Now for the breeding of theſe Cocks for the battle, it is much diffe-

differing from those of the dunghill, for they are like Birds of prey, in which the female is ever to be preferred and esteemed before the Male, and so in the breed of these Birds, you must be sure that your Hen be right, that is to say, she must be of a right plume, as grey grissel, speckt or yellowish, black or brown is not amiss: she must be kindly unto her young, and of large body, well poaked behind for large Egges, and well tufted on the crown, which shews courage: if she have Weapons she is better, but for her valour it must be excellent, for if there be any sort of cowardise in her, the chickens cannot be true. The breeding of the battaile Cock.

And it is a note amongst the best breeders, that the perfect Hen from a Dunghill cock, will bring a good Chicken, but the best Cock from a Dunghill hen can never get a good bird; and I have known in mine own experience, that the two famousest Cocks that ever fought in these dayes, the one called Noble, the other Grissel, begot on many ill Hens very bad Cocks; but the most famous Hen Jinks never brought forth ill Bird, how bad soever her Cock were.

Having then unto perfect Cocks got perfect Hennes, (for that is the best breeding) you shall know that the best season of the year to breed in, is from the increase of the Moon in *February*, to the increase of the Moon in *March*: for one *March* bird is ever better worth than three at any other season. You shall place her pen in which she sitteth, to stand warm, and to make her bed of soft and sweet straw, for they be much tenderer then the Dunghills are; neither shall you suffer any other Fowl to come in her view where she sits, for it will move her to displeasure, and make her to indanger her Egs.

You shall also observe in her sitting, whether she be busie to turn her Eggs, (which is a good sign in a Henne) and if she be slack, you shall help her at such times as she riseth from her nest, and ever be sure that when she commeth from her nest, to have meat and water ready for her; lest being forced to seek her food, she suffer her Egs to cool too much: also, you shall have Sand, Gravell, and fine sifted ashes in the Room where she sitteth, in which she may bath and trim her self, at her pleasure.

After one and twenty dayes is the time of their hatching, and

and if when they are new hatched, ſhe do neglect to cover and keep the firſt warm till the reſt be diſcloſed, you ſhall obſerve her and take thoſe that are firſt opened, and lapping them in warm Wool, lay them within the ayr of the fire till the reſt be hatcht, & then put them all under her, and keeping both the hen & them exceeding warm, for they be ſo tender that the leaſt cold will kill them, and ſuffer neither them nor the hen to go abroad into the ayr till they be a month old; and let them have ſtore of food, as Oat-meal, Cheeſe-parings, Chilter-wheat, and ſuch like, and a large Room to walk in, the floor being boord; for the earth floor is too moyſt, and the playſter-floor too cold.

After they are a month old, you ſhall let them walk in ſome graſs Court or green place, where they may have ſtore of Worms, but by all means be ſure there be no ſtinking puddles of water in it; no ſinks, nor filthy Channels, for it is the greateſt poyſon that can be to birds of this nature, and breedeth thoſe Diſeaſes which are moſt mortall: if every morning before they go forth, you perfume them and their Room with Roſemary, or Peny-royall burnt, it is a great preſervation againſt all thoſe infirmities; or to chop Leek blades amongſt their meat is very good alſo.

In this ſort you ſhall nouriſh them till you may diſtinguiſh the Cock-chicken from the Hen, and then ſeeing their Comb or Wattels but appear, you ſhall cut them away, and ſo annoynt the ſore with ſweet butter till it be whole. This will make them have fine ſmall, ſlender, and ſmooth heads, whereas to ſuffer the Comb to grow to his bigneſſe, and then cut it away, it will make him a gouty thick head, with great lumps: neither is the Flux of bloud wholſome, for the leaſt loſſe of bloud in a feathered foul, is exceeding mortall, and very dangerous.

You ſhall ſuffer your Cock Chicken to go together with their Hens till they begin to fight, and peck one at another, but then you ſhall ſeparate them, and diſperſe them into ſeveral walks; and that walk is the beſt for a Fighting Cock which is fartheſt from reſort, as at Wind-mills or Water-mills, Grange-houſes and ſuch like, where he may live with his Henns with-

out

out the offence or company of other cocks. Lodges in Parks are alſo good, and ſo are Cony-warrens, only they are a little too much haunted with vermine, and that is dangerous. Let the feeding place for your cocks be upon ſoft dry ground, or upon boards: for to feed upon paved earth, or on Plaſter floors, will make their beaks weak, blunt, and not apt to hold faſt. Any white corn is good food for a cock in his walk, and ſo are toſts or cruſts of bread ſteeped in drink, or mans urine, for it will both ſcour and coole them inwardly.

If your chickens begin to crow (not being ſix months old) clear and lowd, or at unſeaſonable times, doe not eſteem them, for it is an apparant ſigne of cowardiſe and falſhood: for the true cock is very long before he get his voyce, and when he hath it, he obſerves his hours with the beſt judgement. Unto your fighting cock three hens are ſufficient, five are with the moſt, for they are ſo hot of nature, and will tread ſo much, that they ſoon conſume their natural ſtrength.

A cock would not be put to the battel before he be two years old, at which time he is perfect and compleat in every member; for to ſuffer him to fight when his ſpurres are but warts, you may well know his courage, but never his goodneſſe.

You muſt alſo have an eſpeciall care to the Perch whereon your cock ſitteth when he rouſteth, for if it be too ſmall in the gripe, or crooked, or ſo ill placed that he cannot ſit, but he muſt ſtraddle with his legs, any of theſe faults will make him uneven heeld; and whatſoever he was naturally, yet by this accident he will never be good ſtriker, for the making of the Perch either maketh or marreth the cock. Therefore to prevent this fault, the beſt way is to have in your rouſt a row of little Perches, not above ſeven or eight inches in length, and not a foot from the ground, ſo that your cock may with eaſe go up to them, and being ſet, muſt of force have his legs ſtand neer together. It is a rule, that he which is a cloſe ſitter, is ever a narrow ſtriker.

Let the footſtool of the Perch be round & ſmooth, and about the bigneſſe of a mans arm. Yet for your better knowledge, becauſe words cannot ſo well expreſſe theſe quantities, it ſhall not be a-

misse for you to goe to some famous Cockmasters house, and view the Perches which are within his feeding Pennes, and according to those proportions frame your owne; for the Perch is the making and spoyling of any cock whatsoever.

Again, you must be carefull, that when your dock doth leap from his Perch, that the ground be soft whereon he lighteth, for if it be hard or rough it will make your cock grow gowty, and put forth knots upon his feet.

The dyeting of cocks for the battel.

Now lastly, for the dyeting and ordering of a cock for a battel, which is a secret never yet divulged, but kept close in the brests of some few; and forasmuch as in it only consisteth all the ground and substance of the pleasure, the best cock undicted, not being able to encounter with the worst cock that is dyeted, you shall understand, that the time to make up your cocks, is at the latter end of *August* (for from that time till the latter end of *May*, Cocking is in request) and having viewed them well, and seen that they are sound, hard feathered, and full summed, you shall put them into severall pens, the models whereof you may behold in every cockmasters, or Inne-keepers house, having a moving Perch in it, to set at which corner of the Pen you please.

Of taking up Cocks.

Of the Cock-Penne.

This Pen should be made of very close boards, well joined together all but the fore-front, which would be made open like a grate, one bar two inches distant from another, and before the grate, two large troughs of soft wood, one for his meat, the other for his waters. The door of the grate should be made to lift up and down, of such largenesse, that you may with ease put your cock in and out, and dayly clense the Penne to keep it sweet and wholsome.

This Pen would be at least three foot in height, and two foot in square every way, and many of them may be joyned in one front, according to the bignesse of the room, in which they are built: and also one above another, only with over-shadowing boards, so that one cock may not see another.

Of his diet.

When your cock, as aforesaid, is put up into his Penne, you shall for three or four dayes, feed him only with old manchet, the crust pared away, and cut into little square bits, and you shall

ſhall give him to the quantity of a good handful at a time, and you ſhall feed him three times in a day, that is to ſay, at Sun riſe, at higſt noon, and at Sun-ſet. You ſhall ever let him have before him the fineſt, coldeſt, and ſweeteſt Spring-water that you can get.

After he hath been thus fed four dayes, and his Corn, Wormes, Gravel, and other courſe feeding gone from him, in the Morning take him out of the the Pen, and another cock alſo, and putting a pair of Hots upon each of their heels, which hots are ſoft bumbaſted roules of leather, covering their ſpurres, ſo that they cannot hurt or bruiſe one another, and ſo ſetting them down on the green graſſe, let them fight and buffet one another a good ſpace, as long as in their teaching they do not wound or draw blood one upon another; and this is called the ſparring of cocks: it heateth and chaſeth their bodies, and it breaketh the fat and glut, which is within them, and maketh it apt to cleanſe and come away. Of Sparring of Cocks.

After your cocks have ſparred ſufficiently, and that you ſee them pant, and grow weary you ſhall take them up, and taking off their Hots, you muſt have deep ſtraw baskets made for the purpoſe, with ſweet ſoft ſtraw to the middle, and then put in your cock; cover him with ſweet ſtraw up to the top, and then lay on the lid cloſe, and there let your cock ſtove and ſweat till the evening.

But yet before you put him into the ſtove, you ſhall take butter and roſemary finely chopt, and white Sugar candy, all mixt together, and give him a lump thereof, as much as your thumb, and then let him ſweat; for the nature of this ſcouring is to bring away his greaſe, and to breed breath and ſtrength. You may in time of neceſſity, for want of theſe ſtraw baskets ſtow your cock in a cock-bag, by laying ſtraw both under and above him, but it is not ſo good, becauſe the air hath more power to paſſe thorow it.

After four of the clock in the evening, you may take your cock out of the ſtove, and licking his head and eyes all over with your tongue, put him into his Pen, and then taking a good handfull of bread, ſmall cut, put it into his trough, and then piſſing into the trough alſo give it him to eat, ſo as he may

take his bread out of the warm urine, for this will make his ſcouring work, and cleanſe both his head and body wonderfully.

Now you ſhall underſtand, that the bread which you ſhall give him at this time, and at all other times during his dieting, ſhall not be manchet, but a ſpeciall bread made for the purpoſe, in this manner: you ſhall take of wheat-meal halfa peck, and of fine oat-meal flower as much, and mixing them together, knead them into a ſtiffe paſte with Ale, the white of a dozen egs, and halfe a pound of butter, and having wrought the dowe exceeding well, make it into broad thinne cakes, and being three or four dayes old, and the bliſterings of the outſide cut away, cut it into little ſquare bits, and give it the cock.

There be ſome others that in this bread will mixe Licoras, Anniſeeds, and other hot Spices, and will alſo in the cock-water, ſteep ſlices of Licoras; but it is not commendable, for it is both unnaturall and unwholeſome, and maketh a cock ſo hot at the heart, that when he comes to the latter end of a battle, he is ſuffocated and overcome with his own heat: therefore I adviſe men of judgement, to take that for the beſt diet, which is moſt naturall, and leaſt contrary unto the fowls ordinary feeding.

But to return to my former diſcourſe, after you have fed your cock thus for all night, you ſhall the next day let him reſt, and only give him his ordinary feedings of bread and water, then the next day (which is the ſecond day after his ſparring) you ſhall take him into a fair even green Cloſe, and there ſetting him down, having ſome Dunghil-cock in your arms, you ſhall ſhew it him, and ſo run from him, and entice him to follow you, and ſo chaſe him up and down half an hour at leaſt, ſuffering him now and then to a ſtroke at the Dunghill-cock. And when you ſee that he is well heated and panteth, you ſhall take him up and bear him into your cock-houſe, and there firſt give him this ſcouring: Take of butter, which hath no ſalt, halfe a pound, and beat it in a mortar with the leaves of Herb of greaſe, hyſop, and Roſemary till the herbs cannot be perceived, and that the butter is brought to a green

Salve

Salve, and of this give the cock a roul or two, as big as your thumb, and then ſtove him in a basket, as is before ſaid, till evening, and then feed as was formerly declared.

The next day you ſhall let him reſt and feed, and the next day after, you ſhall ſparre him again: and thus every other day for the firſt forenight, you ſhall either ſparre or chaſe your cock, which are the moſt naturalleſt and kindlieſt heats that you can give him, and after every heat, you ſhall give him a ſcouring: for this will break and cleanſe from him all greaſe, glut and filthineſſe, which lying in his body, makes him purſie, faint, and not able to ſtand out the latter end of a battel.

Havind fed your cock thus the firſt fortnight, the ſecond fortnight you ſhall alſo feed him in the ſame manner, and with the ſame food; but you ſhall not ſparre him, or give him heats above twice in a week at the moſt inſomuch, that thrice or four times in the fortnight will be ſufficient, and each time you ſhall ſtove and ſcour him according to the nature of his heats, that is to ſay, if you heat him much, you ſhall ſtove him long, and give of your ſcouring the greater quantity, if you finde that he is in good breath, and needeth but ſlight heats, then you ſhall ſtove him the leſſe while, and give him the leſſe of the ſcouring.

Now to the third fortnight, which maketh up the ſix weeks compleat (being a time ſufficient to prepare a cock for the battel) you ſhall feed him as aforeſaid, but you ſhall not ſpar him at all, for fear of making his head tender or ſore, neither give him any violent exerciſe, but only twice or thrice in the fortnight, moderately let him run and chaſe up and down, to maintain his wind, and now and then cuffe a cock, which you ſhall hold to him in your hands, which done you ſhall give him his ſcouring well rounded in the powder of Sugar-candy, white or brown, but brown is the better, for the cock then being come to perfect breath, and having no filth in his body for the ſcouring to work on, it will work and cauſe operation upon the vitall parts, and make the cock ſick, which the Sugar-candy will prevent, and ſtrengthen nature againſt the medicine.

After the end of ſix weeks feeding, finding your cock in luſt and breath, you may fight him at your pleaſure, obſerving that he have at leaſt three dayes reſt before he fight, and well emptied of his meat before you bring him into the Pit.

The matching of Cocks.

Now when you bring him into the Pit to fight, you muſt have an eſpeciall care to the matching of him, for in that art conſiſteth the greateſt glory of the Cock-maſter, for what availeth it to feed never ſo well, if in the matching you give that advantage which overthroweth your former labour? Therefore in your matching, there are two things to be conſidered: that is, the length of cocks and the ſtrength of cocks; for if your adverſary cock be too long, yours ſhall hardly catch his head, and then he can never endanger eye or life: and if he be the ſtronger, he will overbear your cock, and not ſuffer him to riſe, and ſtrike with any advantage: therefor for the knowledge of theſe two rules, though experience be the beſt Tutor, yet the firſt, which is length, you ſhall judge by your eye, when you gripe the cock about the waſt, and make him ſhoot out his legs, in which poſture you ſhall ſee the utmoſt of his heieght, and ſo compare them in your judgement. Now for his ſtrength, which is known by the thickneſſe of his body, (for that cock is ever held the ſtrongeſt, which is the largeſt in the garth) you ſhall know it by the meaſure of your hands, griping the cock about from the points of your great finger, to the joints of your thumbs, and either of theſe advantages by no meane give to your adverſary, but if you doubt loſſe in the one, yet be ſure to gain in the other: for the weak long cock will riſe at more eaſe, and the ſhort ſtrong cock will give the ſurer blow, ſo that becauſe all cocks are not caſt into a mould, there may be a reconciliation of the advantages, yet by all means give as little as you can.

Of preparing Cocks to the fight.

When your cock is equally match, you ſhall thus prepare him to the fight, firſt, with a pair of fine cock ſhears you ſhall cut all his main off, cloſe unto his neck, even from his head, unto the ſetting on of his ſhoulders: then you ſhall clip off all the feathers from his taile, cloſe unto his Rumpe, where the more skarlet that you ſee in his Rumpe, in the better eſtate of body the cock is. Then you ſhall take his wings, and

ſpreading

ſpreading them forth by the length of the firſt feather of his riſing wing, clip the reſt ſlope wiſe with ſharp points, that in his riſing, he may therewith indanger the eye of his adverſary: then with a ſharp knife you ſhall ſcrape ſmooth, and ſharpen his ſpurs.

The ordering of cocks after battel, and the curing them.

Lastly, you ſhall ſee that there be no feathers about the crown of his head, for his foe to take hold on, and then with your ſpittle, moiſtning his head all over, turn him into the Pit to move his fortune. When the battle is ended, the firſt thing you doe, you ſhall ſearch wounds, and as many as you can find, you ſhall with your mouth, ſuck the blood out of them then waſh them very wel with warm urine, to keep them from ranckling, and then preſently give him a roul or two of your beſt ſcouring, and ſo ſtove him up as hot as you can both with ſweet ſtraw and blanketting, in a cloſe basket for all that night; then in the morning take him forth, and if his head be much ſweld, you ſhall ſuck his wounds again, and bath them with warm urine, then having in a fine bag the powder of the herb Robert, well dried, and finely ſeirſt, pounce all the ſore places therewith, and then give the cock a good handful of bread to eat, out of warm urine, and ſo put him into the ſtove again, in the ſame manner as before mentioned, and by no means let him feel the air until all the ſwelling be gone, but twice a day ſuck his wounds, dreſſe him, and feed him, as is aforeſaid.

But if he have received any hurt, or blemiſh in his eye, then you ſhall take a leafe or two of right ground ivy, not that which runneth along the ground, and is of the ignorant ſo called, but that which growes in little tufts in the bottome of hedges, and is a little rough leafe, and having chewed it very well in your mouth, and ſuckt out the jayce, ſpit it in the eye of the cock, and it will not only cure it of any wound, or any blow in the eye, where the ſight is not pierced, but alſo defend it from the breeding of films, hawes, warts, or any ſuch other infirmities which quite deſtroy the ſight: Obſerving that you do not ceaſe to dreſs the eye therewith ſo long as you ſhall perceive any blemiſh therein.

Now if your cock have in his ſight veyned himſelf, either by narrow ſtriking, or other croſſe blow, you ſhall find out the wound

wound, and preſently bind thereunto the fine ſoft down of a hare, and it will both ſtaunch it and cure it.

For any other caſual infirmity or ſickneſſe which ſhall happen unto cocks, look in the former book called *Cheap and Good*, and you ſhall find them ſet down at large; only I will give you this one ſmall remembrance, that after you have put forth your wounded cocks to their walks, and come to viſit them a month or two after, if you find about their head any ſwollen bunches, hard, and blackiſh at one end, you ſhall know that in ſuch bunches are unſound cores; therefore preſently with your knife, you ſhall open the ſame, and cruſh out the cores with your thumbs, then with your mouth ſuck out all the corruption, and then fill the holes full of freſh butter, and it will cure them. And thus much for the nature of the cock, and how to keep him for his beſt uſe.

FINIS.

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